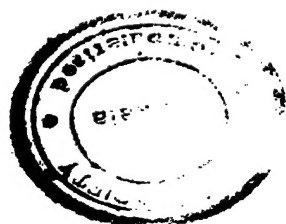




! FORWARDED !







OCCASIONAL MEMOIRS  
OF  
THE NUMISMATIC SOCIETY OF INDIA.

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II.  
HISTORICAL STUDIES  
IN  
MUGHAL NUMISMATICS.

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BY  
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## FOREWORD.

At the Annual Meeting of the Numismatic Society for 1915, the suggestion was advanced that "So much work has now been done on the coins of the Sultans and Emperors of Delhi that further progress will depend on the efforts of specialists in the co-ordination of information available from known coins, and in historical research. There is still a wide field in the study and elucidation of those passages of the Indian historians which relate to numismatics in general." The Secretary then proposed that a list of histories containing such information should be made, and that the work of collecting passages bearing in any helpful way on the study of coins and their mints should be divided among members of the Society, each member taking one historian. This suggestion was adopted by the meeting and the Secretary was asked to take early steps to carry it into effect. The outcome of the resolution was remarkable. During the ensuing year there appeared in the J.A.S.B. Numismatic Supplement No. XXVII three articles from the pen of Professor S. H. Hodivālā: 'The Bijāpūr Rupees of 1091 A.H., 'The Gulkanda Rupees of Shāhjahān,' 'The Meaning of *Tankā*,' elucidating problems in Mughal Numismatics hitherto unsolved, by references to original sources. At the next Annual Meeting of the Society the President, alluding to "the suggestion made for constructive work by the Society" in the previous year was able to point to "Mr. Hodivālā's notes" as "specimens of the first fruits." During the next five years appeared a series of further articles all written on the same lines. There were, in N.S. XXVIII, 1917, "The Dirham-i-Shar'ai," "The Weights of Aurangzeb's Dāms," "Some Heavy Rupees of Bahādur Shāh Shāh 'Alām," "The Mint-name Srīnagar," "Bahādurgarh," "A'zamnagar," "The Murādi Tanka," "Fīrūzgarh"; in N.S. XXXI, 1918, "The Mandū Gold Couplet," "The Katak Rupees of Aḥmad Shāh," "Notes and Suggestions about some Unassigned or Doubtful Mughal Mints"; in N.S. XXXIV, 1920, "Abūl Fazl's Inven-

tory of Akbar's Mints," "Notes and Queries regarding Mughal Mint-Towns"; and in N.S. XXXV, 1921, "Historical Notes on the Honorific Epithets of Mughal Mint-Towns," "The Laqab 'Šāhibqirān-i-Šānī.'" The present Memoir containing twenty-four more articles is the culmination of Professor Hodivālā's labours. The work which he has accomplished is, in the writer's opinion, remarkable in many respects. In the first place, Professor Hodivālā's wide and extremely accurate knowledge of the Persian historians of India and of the works of European travellers has enabled him to bring together in this series of studies, including those in the present volume, what for all practical purposes is an exhaustive list of all references bearing upon the Mughal coinage, and he has thus been able, for that period at least, to accomplish single-handed a piece of research which the Society in 1915 considered could only be performed by a number of its members working in co-operation. But he has not been content with a mere list. His knowledge of numismatics has led him to carry his investigation a step further; and it would be no exaggeration to say that these studies, in which the information derived from original authorities has been applied to the principal problems connected with the Mughal coinage, have set at rest at least half of the controversies that have engaged numismatists during the past half century. It will suffice to mention here the flood of light that has been thrown upon Akbar's monetary system by such articles as those on "The Meaning of Tankī," "The Murādī Tanka," "Abūl Faḥl's Inventory of Mints" and Nos. III, IV, V, VI, and VII in this Memoir.

Although Professor Hodivālā's book is concerned in the first instance with coinage, it would be a mistake to suppose that it has an interest only for the numismatist. The historian and the student of economics should find here stores of valuable material, not readily available elsewhere, and not infrequently something more. The study entitled "The Coin Legend Allāhu Akbar" (No. V in this volume) is, for example, an important contribution to the subject of the Emperor Akbar's religion, and there is much matter equally suggestive scattered throughout these chapters. To have read the proof sheets, as

the writer of this foreword, has done, has in itself been a liberal education in the history of the Mughal period. He feels confident that the critical acumen displayed in the patient sifting of evidence as well as the author's erudition and familiarity with the by-ways of Oriental lore will make as strong an appeal to others as they have made to him, and that these "Historical Studies in Mughal Numismatics," the harvest of so many years' devoted labour, will win from scholars both in and outside India the wide appreciation they merit.

A word of explanation is needed, in conclusion, on the scheme of transliteration employed in this Memoir. In the main body of the text that adopted by the Council of the Asiatic Society of Bengal has been used; but in all quotations the orthography as it stands in the original texts has been preserved. This plan has, as can readily be conceived, added considerably to the labour of proof correction and printing: but every effort has been made to keep errata within the limit of the irreducible minimum.

*Lucknow,*  
*August, 1923.*

C. J. BROWN.

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## ERRATA.

Page 1, l. 28, *for* said to me *read*  
saw mo.

.. 8, l. 5. from foot, *for* اکبر *read*  
اکثر.

.. 29, l. 34, *for* forb ringing *read*  
for bringing.

.. 37, l. 6, *for* five *read* three.

.. 42, l. 27, *for* jalāluhu *read*  
jalāluhu.

.. 45, l. 2, *for* Asht-sidhi *read*  
Asht-siddhi'.

.. 51, l. 14, *for* comma *read* full-  
stop *after* remark.

.. 54, Note l. 5, *for* negative  
*read* negated.

.. 59, Note l. 3, *for* 11 *read* 101.

.. 62, Note, l. 6, add Text I. 202.

.. 65, l. 36, *for* Chūgul *read*  
Chugul.

.. 69, l. 21, *for* differing *read*  
differs.

.. 69, l. 7 from foot, *for* tal'i  
*read* tāli'.

.. 71, l. 16, *for* tal'i *read* tāli'.

.. 70, l. 18, *for* 207 *read* 237.

.. 74, l. 5, from foot, *for* bad  
*read* had.

.. 75, l. 22, *for* 124 A.H. *read*  
1124 A.H.

.. 75, Note l. 3, *for* Ed. *read* E.D.

.. 77, l. 9, *for* or *read* a.

.. 78, l. 20, *for* on *read* an

.. 84, Note l. 2, *for* An-ul-haq  
*read* An al-Haqq.

.. 87, l. 14, *for* statues *read*  
statutes.

.. 88, l. 27, *for* [Sir] E. D. *read*  
General.

.. 90, l. 36, *for* their *read* their.

.. 93, l. 29, delete ل

.. 99, l. 14, *for* Qat'i *read* Qāt'i.

.. 100, l. 5 from foot, *for* two  
*read* three.

.. 100, l. 4 from foot, *for* pp. 194  
and 198 (Text, 325, 326)  
*read* pp. 194, 196 and 198  
(Text, 324, 325).

.. 101, l. 19, *for* آن *read* آن.

.. 119, Note, l. 10, *for* names  
*read* name.

.. 137, l. 24, *for* سوائی *read* سوائی

Page 138, l. 27, *for* have *read* has.

.. 144, l. 16, *for* مطابق *read* مطابق

.. 150, the Persian passage is to  
be read as a continuation  
of Note 1, p. 149.

.. 158, l. 34, *for* sacrificed *read*  
sacrificed.

.. 163, Note, in Mullā Chānd's  
horoscope, the Sun should  
be shown in the twelfth  
house, Virgo.

.. 171, l. 10, *for* historiss *read*  
histories.

.. 173, l. 7, *for* Nurcahān *read*  
Nurjahān.

.. 177, Note l. 11, *for* scattered  
*read* scattered.

.. 177, Note l. 16, *for* Lādak *read*  
Ladākh

.. 179, l. 3 from foot, *for* charans  
*read* charns

.. 180, l. 15, *for* 382 *read* 363.

.. 182, l. 27, *for* گلشهای *read*  
گلشهای.

.. 183, Note, l. 5, *for* 1-11 *read*  
1911.

.. 189, l. 37, *for* 90 shāhīs *read*  
200 shāhīs

.. 195, l. 25, *for* shawls *read*  
carpets.

.. 196, Note l. 2, *for* extrat *read*  
extract.

.. 199, Note l. 11, add p. 16 *after*  
Āthār.

.. 205, l. 12, *for* tarikḥ *read*  
tārīkh.

.. 208, Note 2, l. 1, *for* 167th and  
30th *read* 157th and 31st.

.. 209, Note l. 2, *for* 166, 230,  
24th and 230th *read* 157,  
220, 14th and 220th respec-  
tively.

.. 217, Note l. 1, *for* 15th *read*  
11th.

.. 217, l. 25, *for* Miftah *read*  
Miftāh.

.. 219, last line, *read* a fullstop  
*after* more.

.. 220, l. 1, *for* Mongol *read* the  
Mongol.

.. 220, l. 2, delete the *before*  
southern.



- Page 221, l. 41, for *Talob* read *Tālib*.  
 „ 227, l. 17, for I. i. ii. 79 read I: ii. 79.  
 „ 229, l. 21, for 1619 A.C. read 1618 A.C.  
 „ 242, Note l. 2, delete the words *the rupee of*.  
 „ 251, l. 4, add 276 after *Dowson. VII*.  
 „ 252, l. 2, for *Sebastein* read *Sebastian*.  
 „ 266, l. 4 from foot delete [ *دیباجہ* ].
- Page 274, l. 26, for 1661 A.C. read 1660 A.C.  
 „ 284, l. 15, delete comma after *Qāsim's*.  
 „ 297, Note l. 9, insert *had passed after sunrise*.  
 „ 298, l. 14, for *Kazvin* read *Qazvin*.  
 „ 298, l. 16, for *Vahid's* read *Vahid's*.  
 „ 302, l. 6, The figure 2 should be placed at *Khān*, and before *Aurangzeb's*, l. 13. Note.

# HISTORICAL STUDIES IN MUGHAL NUMISMATICS.



## I. SHĀHRUKHIS.

The Autobiography of the Emperor Bābur, the 'Memoirs' of Jauhar the *āftābchī* and the *Humāyūn-nāma* of the Princess Gulbadan are all full of references to a silver coin called the *shāhrukhī*. The name is undoubtedly derived from that of a son of the great Timūr who was so called from that conqueror having received the news of his birth just after he had, in playing chess, checked the king (شاه) with the (رخ) Rook or Castle. (D' Herbelot, *Bibliothèque Orientale*, s.v.; Markham, Narrative of Clavijo's Embassy to the Court of Timur, 142, Note; Sir T. Colebrook, *J.R.A.S.*, 1877, p. 395, Note; *Tārīkh-i Rashīdī*, Trans. Elias and Ross, 202, Note.)

Sultān Shāhrukh was born on 14 Rab'ī II, 779 A.H. and reigned for more than forty years. (807-855 A.H.) His coinage had an extensive circulation in several Asiatic countries, and is fairly well represented in our Museums and private collections. (Rodgers, Catalogue of the Coins of the Indian Museum, Part IV, pp 122-3; British Museum Catalogue of Oriental Coins, VII, passim; White King, Sale Catalogue, Pt. III, 2654-2662).

Let me now cite the passages in which this *shāhrukhī* is mentioned by our authorities.

"The revenues of Kābul, whether from the cultivated land or from tolls (*tamghā*) or from dwellers in the open country, amount to 8 laks of *shāhrukhīs*."

Memoirs of Bābur, Trans. A. S. Beveridge, 221 = Leyden and Erskine's Trans. 151. Persian Trans. (Bombay, Lith. 1308 A.H.), p. 80, l. 14.

"Some Nilābīs<sup>1</sup> came and said to me at the ford head (*guẓar bāshī*), bringing a horse in mail and 300 *shāhrukhīs* as an offering." [925 A.H.]

A. S. Beveridge, Trans. Memoirs of Bābur, 379. Erskine's Trans. 253; E.D. IV, 231; Persian Trans. 141, l. 3.

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<sup>1</sup> Nilāb (blue water) is the old name of the Sind or Indus, (E.D. II 562; VI, 312-3). It is also the name of a town on its left or eastern bank, about fifteen miles below Atak. (*Ibid.*, IV, 231, Note; Thornton, Gazetteer, s.v.) The passage shows that *shāhrukhīs* were current at the time in the Panjāb.

"The agreement is to give one *shāhrukhī* for each yoke of oxen and seven for headship in a household ; there is also service in the army." [925 A.H.]<sup>1</sup>

Beveridge, *ibid.*, 379 ; Erskine, *ibid.*, 254. Persian Trans. 141, l. 14.

"On Wednesday the 22nd of the month [*scil.* Šafar, 925 A.H.], the headman and chauderis of Bhira were summoned, a sum of 400,000 *shāhrukhīs* was agreed on as a price of peace (*Māl-i-amān*) and collectors were appointed." <sup>2</sup>

A. S. Beveridge, *ibid.*, 383 ; Erskine, *ibid.*, 256 ; Elliot and Dowson IV, 233 ; Persian Trans. 143, l. 8.

On Monday the 8th [Jumādā II, 925 A.H.] arrived the wedding-gift for the marriage of Qāsim Beg's youngest son Hamza with Khaltfa's eldest daughter. It was of 1,000 *shāhrukhī* ; they offered also a saddled horse." <sup>3</sup> A. S. Beveridge, Trans. Memoirs of Bābur, 400 = Leyden and Erskine's Trans. 268 ; Persian Trans. 151, l. 10.

On Friday the 29th [*scil.*, Sha'bān, 925 A.H.] "Mir Khurd was made to kneel as Hindāl's guardian. He made an offering of 1,000 *shāhrukhīs* (circa £50)" <sup>4</sup>

A. S. Beveridge. *ibid.*, 408 ; Erskine, *ibid.*, 274 ; Persian Trans. 155, l. 6.

"On Saturday the 18th, I rode out of the Chār-bagh at midnight. \* \* \* and near sun rise, reached Tardī Beg *Khāk-sār's Kārez*. \* \* \* I had taken one hundred *shāhrukhīs* (£5) with me ; I gave him these and told him to get wine and other things ready as I had a fancy for a private and unrestrained party." [925 A.H., 1519 A.C.] <sup>5</sup>

A. S. Beveridge, Tr. Memoirs, 417 = Leyden and Erskine. 280 ; Persian Trans. 158, last line.

"On Wednesday [6th Šafar 932 A.H.], when we had dismounted at Barikāb, the younger brethren of Nūr Beg. he him-

<sup>1</sup> This is said of the country of the Jūd and Janjūha tribes in the Salt Range—"a hill system in the Jhelum, Shāhpūr and Miānwālī Districts of the Panjāb." (Imp. Gaz. XXI, 412.)

<sup>2</sup> Bhira is in Shāhpūr District, Panjāb. The old town lay on the right bank of the Jhelum. The modern town lies on the left, and "has a direct export trade to Kābul, the Derajāt and Sukkur." (Imp. Gaz. VII, 100.) The fact of the ransom having been fixed in *shāhrukhīs* is noteworthy.

<sup>3</sup> Bābur was at this time ruler of Kābul only and had not yet conquered India. The word used for wedding-gift is *ساجق* *Khalifa* was Khwāja Nizāmuddin 'Alī Barlās, Bābur's Vazīr and physician. Abū Fāzī Akbarnāma, Trans. I, 281 ; Gulbadan, *Humāyūn Nāma*, Trans. 101, Note.

<sup>4</sup> Erskine notes that the mention of such sums shows the poverty of the country. (*Loc cit.*, 274, Note.)

<sup>5</sup> It is clear from these three passages that the real "pervading currency" of the kingdom of Kābul consisted in 925 A.H. of the widely-dispersed *shāhrukhīs*.

self remaining in Hindustān brought gold *ashrafis* and *tankas* to the value of 20,000 *shāhrukhīs*, sent from the Lāhor<sup>1</sup> revenues by Khwāja Husain."

A. S. Beveridge, *ibid.*, 446; Erskine, *ibid.*, 290; Persian Trans. 163, l. 10.

"Bhīra was neither overrun nor plundered; we imposed a ransom on its people, taking from them in money and goods to the value of 4 laks of *shāhrukhīs* and having shared this out to the army and auxiliaries returned to Kābul." [925 A.H.]<sup>2</sup>

A. S. Beveridge, *ibid.*, 479 = Erskine, *ibid.*, 309; Elliot and Dowson, IV, 258; Persian Trans. 177, l. 16.

Bābur's daughter, Gulbadan, also refers to the matter in her Memoirs in the following terms: "Having subdued Bājaur. His Majesty went towards the Bhīra country, and on his arrival made peace without plundering. He took four laks of *shāhrukhīs* and gave to his army, dividing them according to the number of his followers. He then set out for Kābul."

*Humāyūn Nāma*, Trans. A. S. Beveridge, 92, Text, p. 10, l. 15.

"After the victory of Pānīpat" valuable gifts (*saughāt*) were sent for the various relations in Samarkand, Khurāsān, Kāshghar and 'Irāq. To holy men belonging to Samarkand and Khurāsān went offerings vowed to God (*nuzūr*); so too to Makka and Madīna. We gave one *shāhrukhī* for every soul in the country of Kābul, and the valley side of Varsak, man and woman, bond and free, of age or non age."

A. S. Beveridge, *ibid.*, 522-3 = Erskine, *ibid.*, 335; Persian Trans. 206, l. 11. See also *Tabaqāt-i-Akbarī*, Lakhnau Lith. 187, two lines from foot.

"In congratulation on the birth of Humāyūn's son and Kāmrān's marriage, Mullā Tabrizi and Mirzā Beg Taghāi were sent with gifts (*sāchāq*) to each Mirzā of 10,000 *shāhrukhīs*,<sup>3</sup> a coat I had worn, and a belt with clasps." [21 Jumādā l. 935 A. H.].

A. S. Beveridge, *ibid.*, 642; Erskine, *ibid.*, 400; Persian Trans. 232, l. 10.

"Khwāja Kilān Beg was sent back to Kābul after the battle of Pānīpat with presents for the Begams and instructions for their distribution.

"To each begam is to be delivered as follows: One special dancing-girl of the dancing-girls of Sulṭān Ibrāhīm [Lody] with

<sup>1</sup> This does not mean that *Shāhrukhīs* were current in Lāhor. All that Bābur says is that the money value of the tribute sent from Lāhor in 'ashrafis' and 'tankas' was equal to 20,000 *shāhrukhīs*.

<sup>2</sup> This is a repetition of what he has said before at p. 383 of Mrs. Beveridge's translation.

<sup>3</sup> The word *shāhrukhī* is not in Erskine or the Persian translation. but this is probably due to a copyist's error.

one gold plate full of jewels \* \* \* and two small mother-o'-pearl trays full of *ashrafis* and on two other trays *shāhrukhīs* and all sorts of stuffs by nines.'"<sup>1</sup>

A. S. Beveridge, *Hum. Nām.* 95. Text, 12, l. 11

Gulbadan Begam on her first arrival in India [934 A.H.] was given an entertainment by Khwāja Nizāmu-d-dīn 'Alī Birlās, Bābur's Vazīr—who was ordinarily styled Khalifa. This was at Naugrām, a village about four miles from Āgra and on the east of the Jamnā. She says that she "accepted from Khalifa 6,000 *shāhrukhīs* [5,000 in text] and five horses" and Sultānam [his wife] gave her 3,000 and three horses."<sup>2</sup>

*Hum. Nām.*, Trans 102; Text, 18, l. 14.

In her description of the Feast of the 'Mystic House' which was held in commemoration of the accession of Humāyūn, Gulbadan writes :—

"On the Feast day of the Mystic House [طوى خانه طلسم] his Majesty [*scil.* Humāyūn] ordered all the Mirzās and Begams to bring gifts [*sāchāq*] and every one did so. He said, 'Divide the gifts into three heaps.' They made three trays of *Ashrafis* and six of *shāhrukhīs*." She then says that one share was distributed among the Mirzās, chiefs and Vazīrs [اهل دولت], another among the theologians and religious men [اهل سعادت], and the third scattered [نثار] among those present at the entertainment." *Op. cit.*, 124-5; Text, 34, l. 7.

"When this joyful news [*scil.* of the birth of Akbar 949 A.H.] was made known, all the chiefs came and offered their congratulations. The king [*scil.* Humāyūn] then ordered the author of this Memoir [*scil.* Jauhar] to bring him the articles he had given in trust to him; on which I went and brought two hundred *shahrūkhys* (silver coin), a silver bracelet and a pod of musk."

Jauhar, *Tezkereh al Vākiāt*, Trans., C Stewart, p. 45.

"It now becomes necessary to relate that Yādgār Nāsir Khusru Mirzā \* \* \* now suffered a severe retribution by having been expelled by Hussyn [*i.e.* Shāh Husain Arghūn, the ruler of Sind], and obliged to pay a *shahrūkhy* (silver coin) for each camel and five similar coins for every horse belonging to his followers, after which he was sent in great disgrace across the river."<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Bābur must have recoined the gold and silver money he found in the treasuries of Āgra and Dehli before securing such a plentiful supply of *ashrafis* and *shāhrukhīs*.

<sup>2</sup> Such large sums again prove that the conquerors must have immediately proceeded to recoin all the gold and silver they could find into money of their own country's type.

<sup>3</sup> It would appear from this that the silver currency of Sind in the time of Humāyūn was also of the *shāhrukhī* type.

*Tezkereh al Vākiāt, ibid.*, 49.

"Early in the morning, the king [*scil.* Humāyūn] marched toward Hindustān but before his departure determined that the Prince [*scil.* Kāmrān] should be blinded, and gave orders accordingly; but the attendants on the Prince disputed among themselves who was to perform the cruel act. Sultan Aly, the paymaster, ordered Aly Dust to do it; the other, replied, 'you will not pay a Shah Rukhy (3s. 6d.)' to any person without the king's direction; therefore, why should I do this deed without a personal order from his Majesty?"

*Tezkereh al Vākiāt, ibid.*, 105-6.

There is a reference to this monetary denomination in a curious story told of two 'Darvishes by the historian Badāoni.

"It is said that at the time when these two eminent men [*scil.* Shaikh Zainu-d-dīn and Shaikh Abūl Wajd] went to Hindustān, \* \* they possessed nothing but an old *postīn* [a sheep skin-coat] between them; Shaikh Zainu-d-dīn said to Shaikh Abūl Wajd, 'I will take this to the bazar of Kābul upon the condition that you won't come and indulge in any pleasantries.' He agreed, and a purchaser having run it up to a most extravagant figure was ready to give five *shāhrukhīs* but Shaikh Zain kept demanding more. At last Shaikh Abūl-Wajd came up in a disinterested way and acting as broker, after a deal of haggling he said, 'Ah! you cheat! why this door mat itself contains five *shāhrukhīs* worth of fleas and lice! so the bargain was at an end, and Shaikh Zain was annoyed and said, 'What time was this for the stupid jokes you are so fond of? We wanted the price of a loaf, and this is the way you're going to pay for it! Shaikh Abūl-Wajd fell into a fit of laughter.'" (*Muntakhab*, Tr. Ranking, I, 618; Text, I, 476). As both the heroes of this story are said to have died in 940 A.H., it is clear that Shāhrukhīs constituted the ordinary currency of Kābul in the first part of the tenth century of the Hejira.

A cursory examination of these passages is sufficient to indicate that the denomination is very frequently coupled by Bābur, as well as Jauhar and Gulbadan, with all their monetary statements. The revenues of the kingdom of Kābul the ransom demanded from the people of Bhīra, the *peshkash* (or *nazrāna*) of the Amīrs, the gifts sent by the Emperor himself to his sons, the amounts staked by the players at cards are all stated in terms of the *shāhrukhī*. It was, evidently an important if not the most important unit of value in the currency of the days of Bābur and his son. But there is, in the passages themselves, nothing to indicate the weight or value of the coin to which these authors refer almost all their money values.

<sup>1</sup> The words in round brackets are an unauthorized gloss of the translator's.

Fortunately, it is possible to supplement them by the testimony of Abūl Faẓl, and his statements are fully corroborated by Firishṭa and Gulbadan and borne out by the coins themselves.

"The territory of Kābul," he writes, "comprises twenty *Tūmāns*. The Emperor Bābur in his Memoirs sets down the revenue at eight<sup>1</sup> lakhs of Shahrūkhis, inclusive of *Tamghā* imposts, equivalent to three lakhs and twenty thousand *Akbarshāhī* rupees, the rupee being reckoned at forty dams."

*Āin-i-Akbarī*, Trans. Jarrett II, 410.

In his Account of the Sarkār of Qandahār Abūl Faẓl informs us that "the revenue from grapes also is taken by agreement and by paying a special rate. In the latter case experts appraise the average outturn of the Vineyard and exact 4 *bāberies* for each *Kharwār*. Under the reigns of Bāber and Humāyūn, the rate was fixed at 2 *bāberies* and 4 *tangahs*. The *bāberī* is one *miskāl* weight and 2½ are equivalent to the rupee. Besides these three (wheat, barley, grapes), upon nine other articles called *sabzbarī*, 7½ *bāberies* are taken for every *jarīb* formerly rated at 5 *bāberis*," viz. rice (shālī), musk-melons, water-melons, cucumbers, onions, turnips, carrots and lettuce. "On other crops than these two *bāberis* were formerly taken, the Turkomāns exacting three."

*Ibid.*, II, 396.

The writer speaks here of '2 *bāberies* and 4 *tangahs*.'

It is not easy to arrive at the exact significance of these words. They may imply that the *tangah* was a subdivision of the Bāburī and that five or more *tangahs* were equal to one Bāburī. In this connection, it is worthy of note that 20,000 shāhrūkhis (or Bāburis) are said, by Mirzā Haidar, to have been equal to one lac [tangas] of Hindustan. (*Tārīkh-i-Rashīdī*, Trans. 469; see also Erskine, History of Bāber and Humāyūn I, Appendix, p. 544.)

Briefly, the words may mean that in the times of Bābur and Humāyūn the rate of assessment per *Kharwār* was 2 Bāburis and ⅔ths or some smaller fraction of which the numerator was 4 and the denominator 6 or more.

But , in Persian and Arabic means not only 'and,' but also 'or' (Steingass, Dictionary s.v.) *Āin*. Text, I, 588, l. 2), "two Bāburis and four tangas of that district" (or place)" may possibly mean that two Bāburis were equivalent to four tangas in Qandahār, in other words that the Tanga was only the half of the Bāburī.

<sup>1</sup> It is بیست لک 'twenty laks in the text, but there can be no doubt, that بیست is, as Jarrett points out, a copyist's error for هشت 'eight.'

If 8,00,000 shāhrūkhis were equal to 3,20,000 Akbarshāhī rupees, it is clear that one of the former was equal to ⅔ of the latter.

It is clear from the first of these extracts that 2½ shāh-rukhi were equivalent to an Akbarshāhi rupee of 40 dāms. It is plainly stated in the second, that 2½ 'bāberis' also were equivalent to a rupee, and that this 'bāberi' was one miskāl in weight. It is impossible to resist the inference that the 'bāberi' and 'shāhrukhi' were identical, that each contained one misqāl [of silver] and was valued at ½ of an Akbari Rupee. In fact, it would seem as if the same coin was called *shāhrukhi* in Kābul and *Bāburi* in Qandahār.

But this is not all. We have seen that after the battle of Pānīpat Bābur sent as a present one *shāhrukhi* for every soul in the country of Kābul. \* \* \* man and woman, bond and free, of age and non-age." This statement occurs in *Firishta* also, but with a gloss, to the effect that the *Shāhrukhi* contained 'one misqāl of silver.' It is true that this gloss or explanation is absent from Briggs' translation (Reprint. II. 35), but it is to be found in the later and more perfect recension of the text which was afterwards edited by Briggs himself, and of which Newal Kishore's lithograph is a cheap and fairly faithful reproduction.

*Firishta* writes :—

و برای هر یک از مردم شهر کابل از مرد و زن و از بنده و آزاد و خرد و بزرگ و از فقیر و غنی یک شاهرخي که یک مثقال نقره باشد بسر شماری  
فرستاده ایشان را هم خوشحال ساخت \*

*Tārīkh-i-Firishta*, Lakhnau Lith. 1281 A.H. Vol. I, p. 206, l. 5.

" And for every one of the people of Kābul city—man and woman, slave and free, young and old, poor and rich, he sent per head one *shāhrukhi* which is equal to one *misqāl* of silver. And they also were made glad."

*Khāfi Khān* also has an exactly similar statement as to the weight of silver in the *shāhrukhi* in his account of the transaction.

و برای هر یک از مردم کابل مرد و زن همقوم و بیگانه و بنده و آزاد و فقیر و غنی یک شاه رخى که وزن یک مثقال نقره باشد بسر شمار فرستاد \*

*Muntakhabu-l-lubāb*, Bibl. Ind. Text, I, 53, eight lines from foot.

" And he sent for every person in Kābul, man and woman, of his own tribe or a different, slave and free, poor and rich, per head, one *shāhrukhi* weighing one *misqāl* of silver."

This definition of the *shāhrukhi* is reiterated by the author in his paraphrase of another passage of the 'Memoirs,' but it should be said that he is, in both cases, merely reproducing the statement of *Firishta*



و چهار صد هزار شاهرخى بوزن يك مثقال برضامندي زميداران و ارباب  
صناع و عمارت و پراگندگى از محصول مال بتصرف آورده بسبب رميدن  
ذخيره هاى مختلف سمت كابل و آن ديار عنان توجه بآنطرف معطوف ساختند \*

*Muntakhabu-l-Lubāb*, Bibl. Ind. Text, I, 46, 8 lines from foot.

"And after having levied with the consent of the land-holders, and artisans and farmers of the mahāls and parganas [of Bhīra] four hundred thousand *shāhrukhīs* each of which weighed one *miṣqāl* of silver, he [Bābur] turned his reins towards Kābul on account of having received disturbing news from that side."

But though the statement does not derive additional weight or value from the fact of its having been reiterated by Khāfi Khān, it would seem to be undoubtedly correct. Bābur's cousin, Mirzā Haidar Dughlāt explicitly informs us that "a current *shāhrukhī* is worth one *mīhkāl* of silver." *Tārikh-i-Rashīdī*, or History of the Mongols of Central Asia. (Trans. Ney Elias and E. Denison Ross—469.)

And an interesting fact recorded by Gulbadan in connection with the death of Bābur's mother points to the same conclusion. "Her Highness, the Khānam, His Majesty's [*scil.* Bābur's] mother, had fever six days, and then departed from this fleeting world to the eternal home. They laid her in the New Year's Garden [باغ نو رزى in Text]. His Majesty paid 1,000 coined *miṣqāl* to his kinsmen, the owners of the garden and laid her there."

A. S. Beveridge *Humāyūn Nāma*, Trans. 86, Text, pp. 5-6.

The words in the original are 'یکهزار تنگه مثقالی'—one, thousand Tangas of one *Miṣqāl*. These *tanga-i-miṣqālī* or coined pieces of silver weighing one *miṣqāl*, must have been identical with *shāhrukhīs*.

It is true that there is in the same work a statement which seems to throw doubt on the matter, but the difficulty is apparent and not real, and has arisen, in all probability, from the true meaning of a loosely-worded sentence having been imperfectly understood. In her description of the festive gatherings held in celebration of Humāyūn's conquest of Kābul in 951 A.H. [1545 A.C.], she writes:—

و اکبر بسلط نشاط بازی میکردند از آن جمله - دوازده کس بودند بهر کس  
بیست ورق بیست ورق و بیست بیست شاهرخى میدادند و کسی که پای  
میداد همدن بیست شاهرخى پای میداد که پنج مثقالی باشد و اگر میبرد  
هر چند که بازی میکردند زیاده میبردند \*

*Humāyūn-nāma*, Text, 77, l. 2.

This is thus rendered by Mrs. Beveridge.

"Many amusing games, full of fun were played. Among them was this. Twelve players had each twenty cards and twenty *shāhrukhīs*. Whoever lost, lost those twenty *shāhrukhīs*, which would make five *misqālīs*.<sup>1</sup> Each player gave the winner his twenty *shāhrukhīs*, to add to his own." *Op. cit.*, 178.

The translator adds in a note that "one *shāhrukhī* was about ten pence. Four *shāhrukhīs* made one *misqāl*." This last equation we must take leave to doubt. We are explicitly told by Mirzā Haidar, Abūl Faḥl and Firishta that the *shāhrukhī* contained one *misqāl*, i.e. about 72 grains of silver, and this is in perfect accord with the known weights of the silver coins of Sulṭāns Shāhrukh, Abū Sa'īd, Aḥmad, Husain Baiqarā, and also of Bābur and Humāyūn. White King, *Sale Catalogue*, Part III, Nos. 2857, 2667; Rodgers, *Catalogue of Coins on the Indian Museum Pt. IV*; Wright, *I.M.C. III*, 1-6 and 15-20; Lane Poole, *B.M.C.* 1-7 and 18-22; Whitehead, *P.M.C.* 1-31 and 40-64.

It is difficult to avoid the conclusion that the twenty coins staked were really quarter-*shāhrukhīs*, fractional pieces which are loosely spoken of by the writer as *Shāhrukhīs*, who afterwards however, takes care to remove any doubt as to her *real meaning* and the value of the stakes by stating that the twenty *shāhrukhīs* were equivalent to only five *misqālīs* or (whole) *shāhrukhīs*.

In fact, it would appear that this *tanga-i-misqālī* was popularly abbreviated into *misqālī* and that the latter was one of the synonymous or provincial designations of our *shāhrukhī*. Witness, Mir M'asūm Bhakkari who says that when Humāyūn consented to retreat from Jūn, Shāh Husain Arghūn sent to him as a gift "one lakh of *misgalees* (about 6 annas each), 300 horses, 300 camels and other requisites for marching, and he threw a bridge over the river opposite to Joon." [Rab'ī II, 950 A.H.] *History of Sind*, Trans. Malet, 119.

Elsewhere, the same author informs us that "grain became very dear in the cold season of that year [947 A.H.] about Bukkur, so much so that the people gave up their lives in search for bread; hearing of which the king [*scil.* Humāyūn who was besieging the fortress] gave much money from the treasury to his sepoyes. One thin bread (*chapatee*) cost one *miskal*, i.e. 4 Mashas and 3½ Ruttees or about 6 annas." (*Ibid.*, p. 113.)

There can be little doubt that here also the author wrote

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<sup>1</sup> It may be worth noting that this rendering is not exactly correct. The words in the text are *پنج کوہ میقالی باشد* which are equivalent to 5 *Misqālīs*, coins so called which contained a *misqāl* of silver, and were identical with the *tanga-i-misqālī* or *shāhrukhī*.

or meant to write *miṣqālī*, and that he intended to say that a loaf cost about a *shāhrukhi* (locally termed *miṣqālī*) in Humāyūn's camp before Bhakkar.

But it is not Mir M'aṣūm alone who speaks of a silver coin which was known as the *miṣqālī* in Sind, but which closely resembled the *shāhrukhi* in weight as well as value. The *Miṣqālī* is explicitly mentioned by the author of the *Āin-i-Akbarī* in a passage in which he records, the standard of fineness or Matt. of several kinds of silver money which were then extensively current or held in general estimation in this country —

"In former times," he writes, "silver also was assayed by the *banwārī* system; now it is calculated as follows:—if by refining 100 tolahs of *shāhi* silver which is current in 'Irāq and Khurāsān, and of the *lārī* and *miṣqālī* which are current in Tūrān, there are lost three tolahs and one *sarkh*; and of the same quantity of the European and Turkish *narjīl*, and of the *mahmūdī* and *muzaffarī* of Gujrāt and Mālwah, 13 tolahs and  $6\frac{1}{2}$  māshas are lost, they become of the imperial standard." (*Op. cit.*, Trans. Blochmann, I, 23.)

The upshot of the matter is that the broad thin silver pieces of Bābur and Humāyūn weighing about 72 grs. are *shāhrukhis*. Thomas boldly gave them the name (Chronicles, 380-1). Later writers, have, however, declined to follow him. Mr. Stanley Lane Poole speaks of them vaguely as 'Transoxine dirhams' or 'dirhams of the Timurid standard' (B.M.C. Introd. lxxv). Mr. Nelson Wright and Mr. Whitehead also do not venture to give them their *specific* designation and remain content with the indefinite generic term "dirhams of the Central Asian type" (I.M.C. Introd. xv, lv; P.M.C. xlv, lxxv). The object of this note is to show that these coins had a name of their own, and that that name was *shāhrukhi*. This was their most general or popular appellation, but there were also several synonymous designations, e.g. *Bāburī*, *Miṣqālī*, *Tangu-i-miṣqālī*, etc.

## II. THE ILĀHĪ ERA.

The name of the New Solar Era founded by Akbar is familiar to all students of his coins, and there is scarcely a work on Mughal Numismatology which does not abound in allusions to the Ilāhī Era and the Ilāhī months. The institution of the new method of reckoning is also more or less cursorily referred to in the numerous publications relating to the life and character of the great Emperor, his age and religious opinions. It will therefore be probably news to many that we do not possess an exact or scientifically accurate knowledge of the System.<sup>1</sup> Abūl Faḥl has not been sparing of words on the matter, and the *ipsissima verba* of the Farmān directing the establishment of the *Tārīkh-i-Ilāhī* are preserved in the *Akbarnāma*.<sup>2</sup> But Abūl Faḥl is sometimes unduly concise, as at others unprofitably verbose. If we turn for light to his contemporaries Niẓāmu-d-dīn Aḥmad and Badāonī, their statements are found to be both more succinct and less instructive. All that the author of the *Tabaqāt-i-Akbārī* vouchsafes to say on the subject is that "the Ilāhī year was a true<sup>3</sup> solar year [سال شمسی] beginning with the Nauroz. The first year of this auspicious Era corresponded with Monday, the 27th Rab'ī u-l-Ākhir 963." Elliot and Dowson, V, 247. [Lakhnau Lithograph 242, last line.]

Badāonī is hardly more informing, and all that can be learnt from him will be found below:—

"The era of the Hijrah was now [XXVII R. 990 A.H.]<sup>4</sup> abolished, and a new era was introduced of which the first year was the year of the Emperor's accession, viz. nine hundred and sixty-three. The months had the same names as at the time of the old Persian kings, and as given in the *Niḡāb-us-ṣibyān*.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Vincent Smith frankly tells his readers that "we are not informed as to the exact length of each [Ilāhī] month, so that accurate conversion into A.D. dates is impossible in most cases. \* \* \* The chronology in Vol. III of the A[kbar] N[āma] is ordinarily based on the Ilāhī calendar, and in consequence the exact A.D. equivalents usually cannot be worked out." Akbar, Appendix C, p. 448.

<sup>2</sup> It is also cited in full by the author of the *Mirāt-i-Aḥmadi*, Bombay Lith. Pt. I, 166-171.

<sup>3</sup> There is nothing corresponding to the important qualifying epithet 'true' in the Lakhnau lithograph, but it would seem from Dowson's translation that his manuscript had the word شمسی after حقیقی

<sup>4</sup> Badāonī's chronology is frequently unreliable. He is often out by a year in his reckoning of the regnal years and both he and the author of the *Tabaqāt-i-Akbārī* go astray, as Dowson has pointed out, at the 22nd

[A vocabulary in rhyme which is a common school-book.] Fourteen festivals also were introduced corresponding to the feasts of the Zoroastrians; but the Feasts of the Musalmāns and their glory were trodden down. \* \* \* The new era was called the *Tārīkh i-Ilāhī* "

(Lowe's Trans II, 316; Bibl. Ind. Text, II, 306.)

Abūl Fazl enters into much greater detail, though he is far from being as communicative as we should wish. In the circumstances, everything that he says possesses value, and I have thought it desirable to bring together all the *useful details* that can be gleaned from his pages.

There is first of all, a long chapter on the Ilāhī Era in the Third Book of the *Āin*. We there read:—

"His Majesty had long desired to introduce a new computation of years and months throughout the fair regions of Hindustān in order that perplexity might give place to easiness. He was likewise averse to the era of the Hijra (*Flight*) which was of ominous signification, but because of the number of shortsighted, ignorant men who believe the currency of the era to be inseparable from religion, His Imperial Majesty in his graciousness dearly regarding the attachment of the hearts of *his subjects* did not carry out his design of suppressing it.

\* \* \* In 992 of the Novilunar year [هلالی] \* \* \*, the imperial design was accomplished. Amīr Faṭḥu'llah Shīrāzī, the representative of ancient Sages, the paragon of the house of wisdom, set himself to the fulfilment of this object, and taking as his base the recent Gurgānī Canon [برزنجید جدید گورگانی اساس] began the era with the Accession of His Imperial Majesty.

\* \* \* The years and months are *natural Solar without intercalation* <sup>1</sup> [سال و ماه شمسی حقیقی شد و کبیسه از میان بر افتاد] and the Persian names of the months and days have been left unaltered. The days of the months are reckoned from 29 to 32 [شماره روزهای ماه از بیست و نه تا سی و دو باشد] and the two days

year (E.D. V, 246, Note) Mr. Vincent Smith also admits that the chronology of these two authors is not so trustworthy as that of the *Akbar-nāma*. (Akbar, 461.)

<sup>1</sup> "The True or Natural Solar year" [سال شمسی حقیقی] is defined by Abūl Fazl himself as the time of his [*scil.* the Sun's] quitting one determinate point till his return to it." (*Āin*, Tr. II, 14, Text, I, 268 five lines from foot). Elsewhere, he gives its length according to Ptolemy Al Battānī (Albatagnius) Naṣīruddīn Ṭūsī, etc., and says that according to the Gurgānī Tables, it was 14 minutes, 33 seconds less than the *Artificial* [اصطلاحی] solar year of 365 d., 6 hours. In other words it was 365 d., 5 h., 45 m., 27 s. (*Ibid.*, II, 24.) "The True or Natural Solar month" is the period that the Sun remains in one *sign*." (*Ibid.*, II, 14.)

of the last are called *Rūz o Shab* [روز و شب نامزد] [ساختند] The names of the months of each era are tabulated for facility of reference."

In this Table, Abūl Fazl gives the names of the months beginning from Farwardīn and ending with Isfandārmaz, in three separate columns under three distinct headings, viz 'Era of Yazdijird,' the 'Malikī Era' and the 'Ilāhī Era,' with the epithets 'Old Style' [قدیمی] 'Jalālī' and 'Ilāhī' respectively affixed to distinguish the homonymous names from one another and prevent confusion.

*Ain i Akbari*, Jarett's Trans. II, 30-31 ;

Bibl. Ind. Text, I, 277-8.

The third chapter of the second volume of the *Akbarnāma* also contains an "account of the establishment of the New and Divine Era from the accession of H.M. the Shāhīnshāh." Here we are informed that "as the world-lighting New Year [نوروز جهان افروز] followed close upon the Accession, and as the latter is nourished by the quickening glances of the sun, the intervening fraction of time \* \* \* was treated as the decorative border [عنوان] to the days of the New Year [ایام نوروزی] \* \* \*, and the beginning of the great Era took effect from the coming New Year. The principle of the calculations [مدار] [سال و ماه شمسی] rested on the *true solar months and years*, [حساب] [حقیقی] and H.M. the Shāhīnshāh, out of his fortune and greatness, and under the influence of a Divine inspiration, designated this grand Epoch, as the Tārīkh Ilāhī (Divine Era). Secretaries of a happy pen recorded it in rolls and rescripts [مناشیر] [و دفاتر] The names of the months of the Era were made identical with the famous names of the Persian months, *but were adorned in addition by the title Ilāhī* (Divine), e.g. *Farwardīn, Divine month, Ardibihisht, Divine month* [بلقب الهی مزین گردانیدند] [چون فروردین ماه الهی و اردیبهشت ماه الهی] \* \* \* As in some months there were two days above thirty, they were called respectively *Rūz* and *Shab* (Day and Night). By the blessings of H.M's attention, the intercalary days [ایام مستترکه بر افتاد] <sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This is the name given by the Arab astronomers to "the five emblemical or supplementary days added to the twelfth month of the old Persian (or Yazdajardī) year." *مستترکه* means 'carried off, removable from سرق 'to take away clandestinely, to steal.' (Richardson, Persian English Dict. s.v.) They are also called *خمسۀ دزدیده* The "stolen five." Alberūnī says that "the reason of their being called *Almasrūka*

were abolished, and the months like the years became Solar.

[ ماء چرون سال شمسي شد ] \* \* \* The pillar of the founders of this sacred era was the Learned of the Age, the Plato of Cycles, Amīr Faṭḥu'llah Shīrāzī, whose title was 'Aẓdu-d-daula. He it was who in a happy hour laid the foundation of this heaven-soaring edifice. Although the foundation took place in 992 (1584), yet as the position of events from the beginning of the sacred accession will be based upon the Divine Era, it appeared proper to enter, the Era among the events of the year of the Accession." *Akbarnāma*, Trans. H. Beveridge, II, 15-17; Bibl. Ind. Text, II, 9-10. (The Italics are mine)

The sum and substance of it is that the Era was founded in the 29th year of Akbar (992 A.H.), that its initial date was Wednesday, 28 Rab'ū-ṣ-ṣānī, 963 A.H., that the year was a *True Solar year*, which means that *its length was 365 d., 5 h., 45 m., and 27 s.*, that there was no intercalation, that the names of the months and days were the same as those of the Old Persian or Yazdajardi Era, that the months were *true solar months*, of which the lengths varied from 29 days to 32, and that the 31st day was called *Rūz* and the 32nd *Shab*.<sup>1</sup>

But we are left in ignorance of a most important point. We are not informed which months had 29 days, which 30 and which 31 or 32. It is obvious that a knowledge of the precise length of each month is indispensable for what we require—the accurate conversion of Ilāhī dates into the corresponding dates of the Hijra or the Era of Christ.

In this connection, it is obligatory to notice the late Doctor Taylor's article on 'Ilāhī synchronisms of some Hijrī New years' Days.' (Num. Sup. XVI, Art. 100.) The calculations embodied therein must have cost the author no small amount of labour.

It is, therefore, with great regret that I feel constrained to say that his industry and zeal have been made nugatory and his results invalidated by an unhappy fundamental error.

We have seen Abūl Faẓl explicitly declaring that the years of the Ilāhī Era were True [ حقیقی ] *Solar years*, that *there was no intercalation* [ کبیسه ], and that the number of days in a month varied from 29 to 32. It is therefore unfortunate that all the calculations of Dr. Taylor and his Table II are founded on the *supposition* that the Ilāhī months resembled

and *Almustaraka* is that they are not reckoned as part of any one of the months." (Chronology of Ancient Nations, Tr. Sachau, 53.) They are the 'five Gāthās' of the Indian Pārsis and the Zoroastrians in Irān.

<sup>1</sup> Abūl Faẓl does not explicitly say which day was called *Rūz* and which *Shab*, but "the account given by Mu'atamid Khān in his Iqbāl-nāma shows that the 31st day was called *Rūz* and the 32nd *Shab*." Beveridge, *Akbarnāma*, Trans. II, 16, Note 3.

their Yazdajardi namesakes in being of 30 days' uniform length, and that the total was made up to 365 by intercalating five days (or *Gāthās*) at the end of Isfandārmaz. Both these assumptions are absolutely negated by the words of Abūl Faḡl. The *Gāthās* had no place whatever in the scheme of the Ilāhī months, and the schedule of Ilāhī days in Table II must be said to have been constructed on an erroneous hypothesis. It follows that all the 'Ilāhī synchronisms' of the initial or New year's Days of Hijri 964-1070, which Dr. Taylor has so laboriously deduced, and which have been reproduced in the Panjāb Museum Catalogue (Appendix B, p. 435) must, *ipso facto*, be unreliable. And this is not an *a priori* conclusion which may be probable, but is incapable of proof. It is rendered absolutely certain and incontrovertible by a comparison of several of Dr. Taylor's results with similar synchronisms which are explicitly recorded in and can be gathered from the *Akbarnāma* or other contemporary chronicles, and of which the accuracy is not subject to doubt or cavil.

Let us take as our first and illustrative example the year at the very top of the list. Dr. Taylor's Ilāhī date for 1 Muḡarram 964 A.H. is 30 Ābān. Now Abūl Faḡl explicitly states that Thursday, 2 Muḡarram 964, corresponded to 23 Ābān. (*Akbarnāma*, Text, II, 37, l. 11; Beveridge's Trans. II. 60.) 1 Muḡarram must have therefore, coincided with the 22nd of Ābān and not the 30th. It will conduce to clarity to set out several other of Dr. Taylor's deductions and the categorical statements of the contemporary annalists in parallel columns. It will be seen that the discrepancy amounts, in some cases, to nine and even ten days.

Dr. Taylor.	<i>Akbarnāma</i>
1 Muḡarram, 966 A.H.=7 Ābān. (Num. Sup. XVI, 709.)	17 Muḡarram, 966 A.H.=17 Ābān. ( <i>Akbarnāma</i> , Text, II, 76, l. 17; Trans. II, 117.) ∴ 1 Muḡarram 966=1 Ābān.
1 Muḡarram, 968 H.=16 Mihir.	10 Muḡarram, 968 H.=18 Mihir. A.N. Text, II, 116, l. 8: Tr. II. 178. ∴ 1 Muḡarram, 968=9 Mihir
1 Muḡarram, 969 H.=5 Mihir.	17 Zi-l-ḡajja, 968 H.=16 Mihir. A.N. Text, II, 148, l. 22: Tr. II, 230. ∴ 1 Muḡarram, 969 A.H.=29 Shahrivar.



## Dr. Taylor.

1 Muḥarram, 972 H. = 2 Shah-rivar.

1 Muḥarram, 975 H. = 30 Tīr.

1 Muḥarram, 978 H. = 27 *Khūrdād*.

Muḥarram, 989 H. = 2 Isfan-dārmaz.

*Akbarnāma*.

2 Muḥarram, 972 H. = 29 Am-ardād.

A.N. Text, II, 229, l. 16;  
Trans II, 350.

∴ 1 Muḥarram = 28 Amardād.

11 Muḥarram, 975 H. = 6 Am-ardād.

(A.N. Text II, 298, l. 10;  
Trans. 437.)

∴ 1 Muḥarram = 27 or 28 Tīr.

3 Muḥarram, 978 H. = 27 *Khūrdād*.

(A.N. Text, II, 353, l. 5;  
Trans. II, 514.)

∴ 1 Muḥarram = 25 *Khūrdād*.

2 Muḥarram, 989 H. = 28 Bah-man.

(A.N. Text, III, 337, l. 24;  
Trans. III, 495.)

∴ 1 Muḥarram = 27 Bahman.

All these discrepancies relate to years falling within the Akbari period. I will now take some instances pertaining to the reign of Jahāngīr, and contrast Dr. Taylor's results with dates which can be gleaned from that Emperor's own Memoirs.

## Dr. Taylor.

1 Muḥarram, 1020 H. = 1 Gāthā, 5 Ilāhī.

1 Muḥarram, 1023 H. = 28 Bahman, 8 Ilāhī.

1 Muḥarram, 1026 H. = 26 Dai, 11 Ilāhī.

*Tūzūk-i-Jahāngīrī*.

4 Muḥarram, 1020 H. = 29 Isfandārmaz, 5 Julūs

(*Tūzūk*, Text, 92, l. 25;  
Trans. I, 191-2)

∴ 1 Muḥarram = 26 Isfandār-maz, 5 *Julūs*

10 Muḥarram, 1023 H. = 1 Is-fandārmaz, 8 *Julūs*.

(*Tūzūk*, Text, 125, l. 28;  
Trans. I, 256.)

∴ 1 Muḥarram = 22 Bahman, 8 *Julūs*.

12 Muḥarram, 1026 H. = 1 Bahman, 11 *Julūs*.

(*Tūzūk*, Text, 171, l. 20;  
Trans. I, 347.)

∴ 1 Muḥarram = 19 or 20 Dai, 11 *Julūs*.

The following examples are taken from the *Bādishāhnāma* and have reference to the reign of Shāh Jahān.

Dr. Taylor.

*Bādishāhnāma.*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 Muḥarram, 1052 H. = 17 Farwardīn, 15 Ilāhī.   | 8 Muḥarram, 1052 H. = 19 Farwardīn, 15 R.<br>(B.N. Text, II, 290, l. 7.)<br>∴ 1 Muḥarram = 12 Farwardīn, 15th Solar year.   |
| 1 Muḥarram, 1053 H. = 7 Farwardīn, 16 Ilāhī.    | Last day (سلخ) of Zī-l-ḥajja 1052 H. = 1 Farwardīn 16 R. (B.N. II, 332, l. 20); 18 Muḥarram, 1053H. = 19 Farwardīn.<br>(B.N. II, 333, l. 17.)<br>∴ 1 Muḥarram = 2 Farwardīn, 16th Solar year. |
| 1 Muḥarram, 1055 H. = 20 Isfandārmaz, 17 Ilāhī. | 19 Muḥarram, 1055 H. = 28 Isfandārmaz.<br>(B.N. Text, II, 412, l. 15.)<br>∴ 1 Muḥarram = 10 Isfandārmaz, 17th Solar year  |
| 1 Muḥarram, 1056 H. = 10 Isfandārmaz, 18 Ilāhī. | Last day (سلخ) of Zī-l-ḥajja 1055 H. = 29 Bahman.<br>(B.N. Text, II, 486, l. 10.)<br>∴ 1 Muḥarram = 30 Bahman, 18th Solar year.   |
| 1. Muḥarram, 1057 H. = 29 Bahman, 19 Ilāhī.     | 24 Zī-l-ḥajja 1056 = 12 Bahman.<br>(B.N. Text, II, 626, l. 13.)<br>∴ 1 Muḥarram, 1057 = 18 Bahman, 19th Solar year.   |

It is hardly necessary to multiply instances, and it is not at all difficult to see where the root of all these errors lies. It is obviously in Dr. Taylor's scheme of the Ilāhī days, and the question is, Is it not possible, Abūl Fazl's reticence notwithstanding, to discover the exact length of each of the twelve months? Some light is thrown on this obscure point by a mnemonic couplet which is to be found in a neglected corner of Khāfi Khān's *Muntakhabu-l-Lubāb* (Bibl. Ind. Text, II, 215, l. 7), and is also quoted in the *Ghiyaṣu-l-lughāt*. The latter writer gives a brief account of Akbar's Era under the word فصل (Lithograph of 1893 A.C., p. 324), and then says:—

و شمار روزهای ماه از بیست و نه تا سی و دو باشد بموجب بیت مشهور:  
لا ولا تب لا ولا لا شفی ماه است      لل کط و کط لل شهر کوفه است

"The number of days in the months are from 29 to 32 in conformity with the well-known couplet: 31 ( ٣١ ), 31, ( ٣١ ), 32 ( ٣٢ ), 31 ( ٣١ ), 31 ( ٣١ ) and 31 ( ٣١ ) [days, there are] in six months; 30, 30 ( ٣٠ ), 29 ( ٢٩ ) and 29 ( ٢٩ ), 30, 30 [days there are in the] short months."

It will be observed that no attempt is made in this distich to categorically state the number of days assigned to each of the twelve months *in the order of their occurrence*. All that the words themselves convey is that six months were longer than others. Five of these longer months had 31 days each, and one 32. Four of the six short months had 30 days each, and two 29 days each. So far there is nothing in the phraseology to warrant the assumption that the numbers expressed by Abjad (31, 31, 32, etc.), are to be consecutively arranged and a correspondence or parallel relation understood between them and the serial order of the Ilāhī months. It is perfectly true that if the expressions are strictly interpreted, they will not bear any such meaning. But a mnemonic verse is not to be literally construed like a sale deed or testament. Its author is often obliged to content himself with saying much less than he means and leave a good deal to be understood by implication and inference. Assuming then that such a correspondence is really implied between the sequence of the *Abjad* vocables and the serial order of the Ilāhī months (and I have ascertained that such is the sense in which the distich has been always understood by Musalmān scholars), we should have the following scheme:—

Farwardīn	..	..	31 days.
Ardībihisht	..	..	31 "
Khūrdād	..	..	32 "
Tir ..	..	..	31 "
Amardād	..	..	31 "
Shahrivar	..	..	31 "
Mīhr ..	..	..	30 "
Ābān ..	..	..	30 "
Āzar ..	..	..	29 "
Dai ..	..	..	29 "
Bahman	..	..	30 "
Isfandārmaz	..	..	30 "

It is clear that the problem would be solved if this scheme could be substantiated. Unfortunately, it is not at all difficult for a student of the Mughal Chronicles to put his finger on several recorded synchronisms which appear, at first sight, to militate against its correctness.

Thus Abū Fazl declares that the 32nd day of Amardād Māh-i-Ilāhī (XIV R) corresponded to Tuesday, 29 Šafar, 977 (A.N. II, 340, l. 13; Trans. II, 498), which shows that Amar-

dād had 32 days in that year at least, and not 31, as we should suppose from the foregoing schedule. Similarly, we are informed that the news of Hemū's arrival at Dehli reached Akbar on 8 Zī-l-hajja, 963=31 Mihr, Māh-i-Ilāhī (I R) which would indicate that 31 days and not 30 were allotted to Mihr in that year. (*Ibid.*, Text, II, 26, l. 22; Trans. II, 45) Once more, he informs us that Akbar marched from Ajmer to Goganda on 31 Mihr, Māh-i-Ilāhī (XXI R). (A.N. Text, III, 191, l. 3; Trans. III, 369.) The Emperor Jahāngīr also has left it on record that Khwāja Abūl Hasan, whom he had sent to Burhānpūr returned on 31 Mihr, Māh-i-Ilāhī (VIII R) corresponding to 8 Ramzān, 1022 A.H. (*Tūzuk*, Text 123, l. 30; Trans. I, 252). Again, we have the statement that Akbar halted at Ilahābās on the 32nd day (*Shab*) of Tīr, Māh-i-Ilāhī (XIXth year), and that he left it on 1 Amardād, which would point to Tīr and not Khūrdād having had 32 days to its share in that year. (*Akbarnāma*, Text, III, 88, l. 5; Trans. III, 124.) Lastly, it is clear from two passages in the *Tūzuk* that Āzar had 30 and not 29 days reckoned to it in the eleventh as well as the twelfth year of Jahāngīr's reign. (*Op. cit.*, Text, 170, l. 8, 204, l. 32; Tr. I, 344, 413.)

This would point to our being as far from a satisfactory solution as ever, but that would not seem to be true either; and some, at least, of the statements embodied in the formula would appear, from these identical Chronicles, to be correct. According to the schedule, Ardibihisht had 31 days, and this is in perfect accord with the *Akbarnāma*, in which it is expressly stated that the Emperor arrived at Āgra and alighted at the Bangālī Maḥal on 31 Ardibihisht, Māh-i-Ilāhī corresponding to 24 Zī-l-qāda 976, XIV R. (*Op. cit.*, Text, II, 340, l. 5; Trans. II, 497.) Again, 31 days are given also to Shanrivar by the formula, and this item, too, would appear to be correct, for Jahāngīr informs us that Muqarrab Khān took leave to go to Aḥmadābād on 31st Shahrivar, Māh-i-Ilāhī of the 11th year. (*Tūzuk*, Trans. I, 334; Text, 163, l. 18), and that he himself returned from a hunting excursion on 31st Shahrivar in the 12th year to Mandū. (*Ibid.*, Text, 193, l. 12; Tr. I, 390.) Lastly, the maximum number of days (32), is assigned in the formula to Khūrdād, and this also would seem to be correct for we read in the *Bādishāhnāma* that 7 Jumādā I, 1057 A.H. corresponded to 32 Khūrdād, and that the 8th coincided with the first day of Tīr. (*Op. cit.*, Text, II, 514, four lines from foot.)

These coincidences, however partial are reassuring, and naturally lead one to prosecute the inquiry, for which the requisite materials are by no means wanting. All students of the original authorities, which have been so often cited in the foregoing pages, know that there are buried in Chronicles hundreds of Hijrī-Ilāhī synchronisms, which are all the more useful because the corresponding week-days are also mentioned.

In these circumstances, one is naturally induced to ask if it is not possible to reconstruct the Ilāhī system of chronology inductively on the sure basis of these data,—the Hijrī date, its Ilāhī equivalent and the week-day. To this question, I have set myself to find an answer in the hope of recovering the secret of Shāh Fathu'llah's system, and beg permission to lay the results of the investigation before those who take any interest in the subject.

It will be, perhaps, best to give, at the outset, one or two examples in illustration of my method.

Abūl Faẓl informs us that 30 Farwardīn (Vth year) corresponded to Tuesday, 12 Rajab, 967 A.H., and that 9 Ardībīhisht of the same year coincided with Friday, 22 Rajab, 967 A.H. Any one who will take the trouble of working out the intervening days must see that the last day of Farwardīn must have been the 31st (A.N. II, Tr. II, 152, Text, II 100-1). Similarly, he states that 17 Ardībīhisht = 11 Sha'bān, 968 A.H. was a Sunday, and that 2 Khūrdād = 27 Sha'bān was a Tuesday. (*Ibid.*, Trans. II, 218, Text, II, 140-1.) It is clear that Tuesday would be in serial order only if Ardībīhisht had 31 days accounted to it.

Again Jahāngīr has left it on record that 29 Isfandārmaz, 5 *Julūs* corresponded to 4 Muḥarram, 1020 A.H. and that the 6th year of his *Julūs* began on 1 Farwardīn = 6 Muḥarram, Monday. It is therefore obvious that Isfandārmaz could not have had more than 30 days in that year. (*Vide* Tūzuk, Text, 92, l. 25 and 93, l. 5, Trans I, 191.)

The point is that whenever we can pick out from the Chronicles solar dates pertaining to any two consecutive Ilāhī months along with the week days of both, it is easy to find out by a simple calculation, how many days were actually reckoned to the earlier or antecedent month in that particular Solar year. The corresponding Hijrī dates are not essential, but they are not unuseful and provide a serviceable check or control which gives a greater measure of certainty to our results.

It stands out clearly from the following data that Farwardīn had 31 days:—

30 Farwardīn, 5th R.Y. = 12 Rajab, 967 A.H., Tuesday.

9 Ardībīhisht (*ib.*) = 22 Rajab, *ib.* Friday.

A.N. Tr. II, 152.

29 Farwardīn XIII *Julūs*, Eve of Wednesday.

1 Ardībīhisht XIII *Julūs*, Eve of Saturday.

Tzk. Tr. II, 7-8.

30 Farwardīn XIV *Julūs*, Friday.

1 Ardībīhisht XIV *Julūs*, Sunday.

Tzk. Tr. II, 84.

23 Farwardīn, XV Julūs, Saturday.

1 Ardībihisht XV Julūs, Monday.

Tzk. Tr. II, 153-4.

But it would appear from the following that only 30 days were sometimes allotted to Farwardīn.

1 Farwardīn XII Julūs, Tuesday.

1 Ardībihisht XII Julūs, Thursday.

Tzk. Trans. I, 370, 375.

All the under-mentioned synchronisms show that Ardībihisht had 31 days :—

17 Ardībihisht = 11 Sha'bān, 968 A.H., Sunday.

2 Khūrdād = 27 Sha'bān, 968 A.H., Tuesday.

A.N. Trans. II, 218.

27 Ardībihisht XIII Julūs, Thursday.

3 Khūrdād XIII Julūs, Thursday.

Tzk. Tr. II, 11, 12.

12 Ardībihisht XIV Julūs, Thursday.

2 Khūrdād XIV Julūs, Thursday.

Tzk. Tr. II, 88-9.

25 Ardībihisht XV Julūs, Thursday.

Khūrdād XV Julūs, Thursday.

Tzk. Tr. II, 155, 159.

The serial dating of these three passages indicates that 32 days were reckoned to Khūrdād.

13 Khūrdād = 23 Shawwāl, 972 A.H., Thursday.

3 Tir = 14 Zī-l-ḥajja (*recte* Zī-l-qa'da), Friday.

A.N. Trans. II, 378, 380.

26 Khūrdād XI Julūs, Wednesday.

6 Tir XI Julūs, Monday.

Tzk. Tr. I, 327.

8 Khūrdād XV Julūs, Thursday.

4 Tir XV Julūs, Thursday.

Tzk. Trans. II, 159, 162.

But an examination of the following passages yields only 31 days for Khūrdād.

25 Khūrdād XIV Julūs, Saturday.

3 Tir XIV Julūs, Monday.

Tzk. Tr. II, 93.

31 Khūrdād XIII J., Thursday.

7 Tir XIII J., Thursday.

Tzk. Tr. II, 15

The fourth month *Tir* had sometimes 31 days.

20 *Tir* = 21 *Zi-l-qa'da*, 971 A.H., Saturday.

24 *Amardād* = 26 *Zi-l-ḥajja*, 971 A.H., Saturday.

A.N. Trans. II, 341, 346.

16 *Tir* = 20 *Zi-l-ḥajja*, 974 H., Saturday.

6 *Amardād* = 11 *Muharram*, 975 H., Saturday.

A.N. Tr. II, 437.

29 *Tir* XII J., Thursday.

5 *Tir* XII J., Thursday.

Tzk. Tr. I, 380, 382.

But occasionally 32 days were accounted to it.

27 *Tir* XIV J., Thursday.

9 *Amardād* XIV J., Thursday.

16 *Amardād* XIV J., Thursday.

Tzk. Trans. II, 94, 95.

31 *Tir* XIII J., Eve of Sunday.

1 *Amardād ib.*, Tuesday.

10 *Amardād ib.*, Thursday.

Tzk. Tr. II, 21, 22.

So *Amardād* also had in some years 31 days.

26 *Amardād* XII J., Thursday.

2 *Shahrivar ib.*, Thursday.

Tzk. Tr. I, 385, 386.

31 *Amardād* XIII J., Thursday.

7 *Shahrivar ib.*, Thursday.

Tzk. Tr. II, 24, 25.

16 *Amardād* XIV J., Thursday.

1 *Shahrivar ib.*, Saturday.

Tzk. Tr. II, 95, 97.

But in others the last day was the 32nd.

32 *Amardād* ( R ) = 29 *Ṣafar*, 977 H., Tuesday.

A.N. Text, II, 340, Tr. II, 498.

*Rūz*, i.e. 31 *Amardād* = 2 *Rab'ī* II, 980 H., Tuesday.

19 *Shahrivar* = 22 *Rab'ī* II, 980 H., Monday.

A.N. Tr. II, 540.

As a rule there were 31 days in *Shahrivar*.

27 *Shahrivar* = 18 *Zi-l-ḥajja*, 967 A.H., Monday.

4 *Mihr* = 26 *Zi-l-ḥajja*, 967 A.H., Tuesday.

A.N. Trans. II, 174, 177.

29 *Shahrivar* XIII J., Friday.

4 *Mihr ib.*, Thursday.

Tzk. Tr. II, 34, 36.

30 Shahrivar XIV J., Sunday.  
5 Mihr *ib.*, Saturday.

Tzk. Tr. II, 98, 99.

30 Shahrivar XV J., Monday.  
1 Mihr *ib.*, Wednesday.

Tzk. Tr. II, 172, 173.

But only 30 days would seem to have been allotted to it in the 16th year of the Ilāhī Era of Akbar.

Night of 27 Shahrivar = 2 Jumādā I, 980, Wednesday.

5 Mihr = 9 Jumādā I, 980, Wednesday.

A.N. Trans. II, 542, 544.

The normal quota of Mihr seems to have been 30 days.

26 Mihr = 26 Zī-l-ḥajja, 965 H., Sunday.

17 Ābān = 17 Muḥarram, 966 H., Sunday.

A.N. Tr. II, 117.

30 Mihr, XIII J., Tuesday.  
2 Ābān, XIII J., Thursday.

Tzk. Tr. II, 44.

24 Mihr XIV J., Thursday.  
1 Ābān XIV J., Thursday.

Tzk. Tr. II, 100, 101.

But in all the passages cited below, the last day of Mihr is explicitly said to have been the 31st.

31 Mihr = 8 Zī-l-ḥajja, 963 H.

A.N. Tr. II, 45.

Akbar marched from Ajmer on 31 Mihr Ilāhī XX1st year.

A.N. Tr. III, 269.

31 Mihr VIII J. = 8 Ramzān, 1022 H.

Tūzuk, Tr. I, 252.

Three extracts from the *Tūzuk* indicate that Ābān had 30 days.

29 Ābān XIII J., Wednesday.  
1 Āzar *ib.*, Friday.

Tzk. Tr. II, 49.

30 Ābān XIV J., Friday.  
2 Āzar *ib.*, Sunday.

Tzk. Tr. II, 109.

25 Ābān XV J., Monday  
9 Āzar *ib.*, Monday.

Tzk. Tr. II, 182, 183.

But the day-to-day record of the events of the 12th year in Jahāngir's 'Memoirs' shows that only 29 days were assigned to it in that year.



21 Ābān XII Julūs, Monday.

24 Ābān *ib.*, Thursday.

26 Ābān *ib.*, Saturday.

29 Ābān *ib.*, Tuesday.

1 Āzar *ib.*, Wednesday.

Tzk. Tr. I, 404-6.

It can be easily seen from the undermentioned entries that 29 days were usually accounted to Āzar.

11 Āzar = 4 Rab'ī I, 968 H., Saturday.

9 Dai = 2 Rab'ī II, 968 H., Friday.

A.N. Trans. II, 187.

27 Āzar XIII J., Wednesday.

2 Dai *ib.*, Sunday.

Tzk. Tr. II, 58.

27 Āzar XIV J., Thursday.

5 Dai *ib.*, Thursday.

12 Dai *ib.*, Thursday.

Tzk. Tr. II, 112.

But it is equally obvious that in the 12th and 15th, it had one extra day given to it.

26 Āzar [23 in the Trans. is a misprint] = 4 Šafar, 964 H.  
Monday.

6 Dai = 14 Šafar, 964 H.,  
Thursday.

A.N. Text, II, 48, l. 10; Tr II, 75, 76.

30 Āzar XII J., Thursday.

Tūzuk, Tr. I, 413 (*vide* also *ib.*, I, 344).

26 Āzar XV J., Thursday.

4 Dai *ib.*, Friday.

Tzk. Tr. II, 187, 190.

Dai appears from the following date-entries to have had only 29 days.

27 Dai = 23 Jumādā I, 971 H., Saturday.

2 Bahman = 28 Jumādā II, 971 H., Wednesday.

A.N. Text, II, 200, l. 23; 201, l. 12; Tr. II, 312, 313.

28 Dai XII Julūs, Thursday.

1 Bahman *ib.*, Saturday.

Tzk. Tr. I, 426, 428.

22 Dai XIII J., Saturday.

1 Bahman *ib.*, Sunday.

Tzk. Tr. II, 67, 69.

The serial dates registered below point to only 29 having been assigned to Bahman in some years.

4 Bahman = 8 Jumādā I, 969 H., Wednesday.

5 Isfandārmaz = 8 Jumādā II, 969 H., Friday.

A.N. Trans. II, 240, 244.

26 Bahman IX Julūs, Sunday.

10 Isfandārmaz *ib.*, Saturday.

Tzk. Tr. I, 275, 276.

24 Bahman XIV Julūs; Thursday.

1 Isfandārmaz *ib.*, Wednesday.

2 *ib.* *ib.*, Thursday.

Tzk Tr. II, 120, 121.

But 30 days are given to it by the formula and this is borne out by the following dates;

27 Bahman XII Julūs, Thursday.

1 Isfandārmaz *ib.*, Monday.

Tzk. Tr. I, 435.

19 Bahman XIII Julūs, Thursday.

3 Isfandārmaz *ib.*, Thursday.

Tzk. Tr. II, 73.

Any one who works out the week days given in the following entries will find that Isfandārmaz had 30 days.

27 Isfandārmaz = 7 Ramzān, 975 H., Sunday.

1 Farwardīn = 11 Ramzān, 975 H., Thursday.

A.N. Tr. II, 477, 482.

29 Isfandārmaz = 4 Muḥarram, 1020 H., Saturday.

1 Farwardīn = 6 Muḥarram, 1020 H., Monday

Tzk. Tr. I, 191, 192.

29 Isfandārmaz XIII Julūs, Tuesday.

1 Farwardīn XIV, *ib.*, Thursday.

Tzk. Tr. II, 77, 78.

30 Isfandārmaz XIV Julūs, Thursday.

1 Farwardīn XV Julūs, Friday.

Tzk. Tr. II, 128, 130.

28 Isfandārmaz XV Julūs, Friday.

1 Farwardīn XVI Julūs, Monday.

4 Farwardīn XVI Julūs, Thursday.

Tzk. Tr. II, 198, 199.

In a word, it would appear that, *normally*,

Farwardīn had	..	31 days, but sometimes	30
Ardībihisht	..	31 days.	
Khūrdād ..	..	32 days but at times	31
Tir ..	..	31 " " " "	32

Amardād ..	..	31 days but at times	32
Shahrivar ..	..	31 " " " "	30
Mihr ..	..	30 " " " "	31
Ābān ..	..	30 " " " "	29
Āzar ..	..	29 " " " "	30
Dai ..	..	29 " " " "	30
Bahman ..	..	30 " " " "	29
Isfandārmaz ..	..	30 "	

Briefly, the conclusion to which the evidence points is that the formula is an empirical statement, a convenient rule for ascertaining and remembering the number of days *ordinarily* accounted to each of the twelve Ilāhī months. It contains a great deal of the truth, but not the whole truth. It ignores occasional deviations from the normal limits, to which the recorded dates bear evidence. But we have as yet no reasons for holding that those deviations were frequent or common. In these circumstances, the question for the *practical* chronologist is, what are the actual results of the application of the formula?

For this purpose, I will select for conversion into Ilāhī dates the initial days of the same Hijrī years, 964, 966, etc., that have been the subject of discussion, and compare the results of the application of the formula with those arrived at by Dr. Taylor.

Our first example was 1 Muḥarram, 964 H.

Now 1. i. 2 Ilāhī = 9 Jumādā 1. 964 A.H. [E.D. V, 246].

∴ = 1. i. 964 A.H. + 126 days (Table I).

∴ 1. i. 964 A.H. = 1. i. 2 Ilāhī - 126 days.

= 23 Ābān, 1 Ilāhī (Table II).

According to Abūl Faḥl's reckoning (A.N. Tr. II, 60).

1 Muḥarram 964, must have coincided with 22 Ābān, which is a difference of only one day.

Dr. Taylor gives 30 Ābān, 1 Ilāhī.

Now let me take our second instance.

1 Muḥarram, 966 A.H.

Now 1. i. 4 Ilāhī = 2 Jumādā II, 966 (E.D. V, 246).

∴ by Table I = 1. i. 966 + 149 days.

∴ 1. i. 966 = 1. i. 4 Ilāhī - 149 days.

= 30 Mihr, 3 Ilāhī (Table II).

According to the *Akbarnāma* (Tr. II, 117) it would be = 1 Ābān—again a difference of only one day. Dr. Taylor gives 7 Ābān, 3 Ilāhī.

1 Muḥarram, 968 A.H.

1. i. 6 Ilāhī = 24 Jumādā II, 968 A.H.

∴ = 1. i. 968 A.H. + 171 days (Table I).  
 ∴ 1. i. 968 A.H. = 1. i. 6 Ilāhī - 171 days.  
 8 = Mihr, 5 Ilāhī.  
 The *Akbarnāma* result is 9th Mihr.  
 Dr. Taylor gives 16. Mihr, 5 Ilāhī.

1 Muḥarram, 969 A.H.  
 1. i. 7 Ilāhī = 5 Rajab, 969 A.H. (E.D. V, 246).  
 ∴ = 1. i. 969 A.H. + 181 days. (Table I).  
 ∴ 1. i. 969 A.H. = 1. i. 7 Ilāhī - 181 days.  
 = 29 Shahrivar, 6 Ilāhī (Table II).  
 The *Akbarnāma* result is identical.  
 Dr. Taylor gives 5 Mihr, 6 Ilāhī.

1 Muḥarram, 972 A.H.  
 Now 1. i. 10 Ilāhī = 8 Sha'bān, 972 A.H. (E.D. V, 246).  
 ∴ = 1. i. 972 A.H. + 214 days (Table I)  
 ∴ 1. i. 972 A.H. = 1. i. 10 Ilāhī - 214 days.  
 = 27 Amardād, 9 Ilāhī (Table II).  
 It would have been = 28 Amardād according to the reckoning in the *Akbarnāma* (Tr. II, 350). Dr. Taylor gives 2 Shahrivar, 9 Ilāhī.

1 Muḥarram, 975 A.H.  
 Now, 1. i. 13 Ilāhī = 11 Ramzān, 975, A.H. (E.D. V, 246).  
 ∴ = 1. i. 975 A.H. + 246 days (Table I).  
 ∴ 1. i. 975 A.H. = 1. i. 13 Ilāhī - 246 days.  
 = 26 Tīr, 12 Ilāhī.  
 The *Akbarnāma* would give 27th or 28th Tīr (Tr. II. 437).  
 Dr. Taylor has 30 Tīr, 12 Ilāhī.

1 Muḥarram, 978 A.H.  
 Now, 1. i. 16 Ilāhī = 14 Shawwāl, 978 A.H. (E.D. V, 246).  
 ∴ = 1. i. 978 A.H. + 279 days (Table I).  
 ∴ 1. i. 978 A.H. = 1. i. 16 Ilāhī - 279 days.  
 = 25 Khūrdād, 15 Ilāhī.  
 The *Akbarnāma* would give the same (Tr. II. 514).  
 Dr. Taylor has 27th Khūrdād, 15 Ilāhī.

1. Muḥarram, 989 A.H.  
 Now 1. i. 26 Ilāhī = 5 Šafar, 989 A.H. (E.D. V, 246)  
 ∴ = 1. i. 989 A.H. + 34 days (Table I).  
 ∴ 1. i. 989 A.H. = 1. i. 26 Ilāhī - 34 days.  
 = 27 Bahman, 25 Ilāhī.  
 This is again in perfect accord with the *Akbarnāma* (Tr. 495). Dr. Taylor gives 2 Isfandārmaz, 25 Ilāhī.

1 Muḥarram, 1020 A.H.

Now, 1. i. VI Julūs = 6 Muḥarram, 1020 A.H.

∴ = 1. i. 1020 A.H. + 5 days (Table I).

∴ 1. i. 1020 A.H. = 1. i. VI Julūs - 5 days.

= 26 Isfandārmaz, V Julūs (Table II).

Jahāngīr's reckoning would yield the same (*Tūzuk*, Tr. I, 191-2). Dr. Taylor gives 1 Gāthā, V Ilāhī.

1 Muḥarram, 1023 A.H.

Now, 1. i. IX Julūs = 9 Šafar, 1023 A.H.

∴ = 1. i. 1023 A.H. + 38 days (Table I).

∴ 1. i. 1023 A.H. = 1. i. IX Julūs - 38 days.

= 23 Bahman, VIII Julūs (Table II).

The *Tūzuk* date would be 22nd (Trans. I, 256). Dr. Taylor has 28th.

1 Muḥarram, 1026 A.H.

Now, 1. i. XII Julūs = 12 Rab'ī I, 1026 A.H.

∴ = 1. i. 1026 A.H. + 70 days (Table I).

∴ 1. i. 1026 A.H. = 1. i. XII Julūs - 70 days.

= 20 Dai XI Julūs (Table II).

The date according to the *Tūzuk* would have been either 20th or 19th Dai (Trans. I, 347).

Dr. Taylor gives 26 Dai, 11 Ilāhī.

1 Muḥarram, 1052 A.H.

Now, 1. i. XVIth Solar year = 30 Zī-l-ḥajja, 1052 A.H.

(*Bādishāhnāma*, II, 332).

∴ = 1. i. 1052 A.H. + 354 days (Table I).

∴ 1. i. 1052 A.H. = 1. i. XVIth Solar year - 354 days.

= 12 Farwardīn XVth Solar year.

Cf. *Bādishāhnāma*, II, 290, which would give exactly the same. Dr. Taylor gives 17 Farwardīn, 15 Ilāhī.

1 Muḥarram, 1053 A.H.

Now, 1. i. XVIth Solar year = 30 Zī-l-ḥajja, 1052 A.H. (*supra*).

∴ 1. i. 1053 A.H. = 2 Farwardīn XVIth Solar year.

Cf. *Bādishāhnāma*, II, 333, which has 1 Farwardīn.

Dr. Taylor gives 7 Farwardīn, XVI Ilāhī.

1 Muḥarram, 1055 A.H.

Now, 1. i. XVIIth Solar year = 21 Muḥarram, 1055 A.H.

*Bād. Nām.* II, 413

∴ = 1. i. 1055 A.H. + 20 days (Table I).

∴ 1. i. 1055 A.H. = 1. i. XVIIIth Solar year – 20 days.  
= 11 Isfandārmaz, XVIIth Solar year.

Cf. *Bād. Nām.* II, 412, which would give 10th Isfandārmaz. Dr. Taylor has 20th Isfandārmaz, XVII Ilāhī.

1 Muḥarram, 1056 A.H.

Now, 1. i. XIXth Solar year = 3 Šafar, 1056 A.H. (*Bād. Nām.* II, 491).

∴ = 1. i. 1056 A.H. + 32 days (Table I).

∴ 1. i. 1056 A.H. = 1. i. XIXth Solar year – 32 days.  
= 29 Bahman, XVIIth Solar year.

*Bād. Nām.* II, 486 would give 30 Bahman. Dr. Taylor gives 10th Isfandārmaz.

1 Muḥarram, 1057 A.H.

Now, 1. i. XXth Solar year = 14 Šafar, 1057 A.H. (*Bād. Nām.* II, 635).

∴ = 1. i. 1057 A.H. + 43 days (Table I)

∴ 1. i. 1057 A.H. = 1. i. XXth Solar year – 43 days.  
= 18 Bahman, XIXth Solar year.

Exactly the same equivalent would be yielded by *Bād. Nām.* II, 626.

Dr. Taylor gives 29 Bahman, XIX Ilāhī.

It is now clear that the formula gives substantially accurate results. In seven cases out of sixteen, these results are in complete accord with the synchronisms obtained from the chronicles; in nine there is a difference or error, but it does not exceed one day in any case. Nor is it difficult to trace the cause of the discrepancy. We have seen that the number of days assigned to each month was not *absolutely* fixed. There *was* a general rule determining the *normal* duration of each, but this normal duration varied within certain narrow limits.

These small variations were due, in the first place, to the re-adjustments which were deemed necessary for bringing the Nauroz into *exact* accord with the day of the sun's entrance into the sign Aries, and for making the year, as far as possible, a *True Solar year* [ سال شمسی حقیقی ] of 365 days, 5 hours, 45 minutes and 27 seconds. In other words there was, side by side with the ordinary rule or scheme of the months, a supplementary method of checking and controlling it by more exact astronomical calculations.

Another cause of variation is indicated by the historian Khāfi Khān in the course of some remarks on Aurangzeb's abolition of the Festival of the Nauroz and his subsequent

prohibition of the publication and use of *Taqvims* or Almanacks in the offices. The passages are somewhat lengthy, but they contain many details which are not found elsewhere and will not bear abridgment. In his account of the orders issued by the Emperor immediately after his Second Coronation, this author says :—

“Jalālu-d-dīn Muḥammad Akbar Bādishāh had ordered that the years and months of the Records [دفتر] and also of his own Julūs should be reckoned from the first of Farwardīn (that is, the entrance of the Great Luminary into the sign of Aries) up to the end of Isfandārmaz, and called them the *Ilāhī months* [مسمی باماء الهی ساختند بودند]. Inasmuch as this resembled the customs of the Magians and the Fire-worshipping Rulers [of Persia], the Truth-recognising Emperor in his endeavours to observe the Holy Law commanded that the record of his Julūs years and the Feasts thereof should be kept in the Arabian and Lunar years and months. As for the Books of Accounts, he directed that the Arabian month and year should be written before [or preferred to] the Solar year.

و حساب دفتر را نیز چنان مقرر فرمودند که ماه و سال عربی بر سال شمسی [مقدم باشد]. And he abolished *in toto* the celebration of the Nauroz festival. Now, every one who is acquainted with the mathematical sciences and Astronomy and is conversant with. (*lit.* has crossed or traversed) the different Eras [تواریخ] knows that though the Nauroz and the Magian months are called by the same names Farwardīn, Ardībihisht, etc., up to Isfandārmaz, yet they are [different and] clearly distinguished from them (*scil.* the *Ilāhī* months). And in the Almanacks [نقاویم] the names of their [*i.e.* the Magian] months are recorded separately according to the initial date of their own year [بقید ابتدای سال] and designated (*lit.* written) as “Old Persian” [نرس قدیم]. And the Nauroz festival of the first of Farwardīn which is celebrated by the Magians in Kermān and the port of Sūrat has nothing whatever to do with this Nauroz<sup>1</sup> which is called *Nauroz-i-Sulṭānī* also \* \* And it is this *Nauroz-i-Sulṭānī*

<sup>1</sup> This is true. On account of the Old Yazdajardī year being reckoned at only 365 days and the absence of any provision for intercalating one day in four years as in the Julian system, the New Year's Day, *i.e.* 1st Farwardīn of the Zoroastrians in Kermān and Yazd fell this year (1921 A.C.) on the 11th of August, and the majority of the Parsis in Surat and Bombay celebrated it on the 10th of September. In Khāfi Khān's time, *i.e.* about 1700 A.C. the corresponding dates must have been 22nd September and 21st October (Old style) respectively. Cowasji Patell's Chronology, pp. 28-9 and 171.

which is observed in most of the cities of Persia [مهر] and India, and even by the sovereigns of Turān, Balkh—the Cupola of Islām [تقد الا سلام] and Bukhārā. The foundation of the four seasons, the summer, winter and rains of Hindustān—the periods of Rab'i and Kharif and the ripening of the fruits and cereals peculiar to each season, the Jāgīr assignments as well as the cash allowances of Mansabdārs [تنخواه جاگیر و نقدی] can be determined only by the Solar reckoning (*lit.* year and months). It is impossible to ascertain (*lit.* understand) them by the Arabian months. All this notwithstanding, the Orthodox Emperor, anxious to promote the cultivation of piety, did not wish that *Nauroz-i-Sultānī* should be continued, because it bore some resemblance to the Nauroz feast of the Era (*lit.* year and month) of the Magians.

*Muntakhabu-l-Lubāb*, Bibl. Ind. Text, II, 79–80.

The author returns to the subject in his account of the eleventh year of Aurangzeb's reign.

“In bygone days, especially in the time of Šāhib qirān-i-Šānī, poets and astronomers were held in high consideration. \* \* \* and astronomers were regarded as necessary members of the Imperial Retinue (*lit.* stirrup) and the Exchequer (*lit.* Divān's Record office), and included in the cadre [داخل = *lit.* entered] of servants personally known to the Emperor. Everything, the determination of the four seasons, the exact calculation (*lit.* the thread of the account) of the Solar months the determination of the Jāgīr assignments and cash allowances of the troops. [اهدی] and the corps of artillery, and the selection of the auspicious moments for doing things, had been all regulated by reference to the astronomers' almanacks (تقاویم). All this was now [*circa* 1079 A.H.] abolished. The custom of reciting poetry and listening to it and the selection of the auspicious hour from Almanacks and the filing (*lit.* preserving, keeping) of Almanacks in the Record-office were all forbidden (*lit.* overthrown). The officers of the Secretariat [اهل دفتر] submitted that since the use of the Almanacks from which the clerks used to correctly calculate the Solar months had been forbidden, it was impossible to keep a regular account of the officers' allowances [تنخواه]. The Emperor replied that they might easily preserve the thread of the Solar months [سر روشند] by the [Mnemonic] verse.

‘31 (lā) 31 (lā) 32, (lab) 31 (lā) 31 (lā) and 31 (lā) [days there are in] six months; 30, 30 (lal), 29 (kaṭ) and 29 (kaṭ) and 30, 30 (lal) [days there are in] the short months.’

From that year [*circa* 1079 A.H.], the clerks in the offices



have been keeping up their accounts by the rule of *Lā wa Lā*, but it is impossible for the results thus arrived at to agree with the hour of the passing of the Sun into another sign as determined by the almanacks, or that there should not be differences as regards the first day of each Solar month. For it is the rule among astronomers that if the passing of the Sun from one sign to another occurs a minute before sunset on any day, that day is reckoned as the first [of the next or coming month]. But if the transit of the Sun into another sign occurs a tenth of a tenth of an hour after sunset, that day is included [داخل] and reckoned as the last day [سالم] of the [current] month. Now this mathematical nicety [*lit.* minute matter of calculation] is difficult to be understood without the astronomical calculations which are recorded in almanacks. (Indeed there are people who are not sure of the [correctness of even] the almanacks of our day.) The author of these pages has ascertained from an examination of the Records of the Divāns of the Dekkan and of the *Dāru l-khilāfat* [Shāh Jahānābād] and of other powerful Amīrs that the differences between them [*i.e.* the solar dates of the Clerks' registers] and the calculations of the astronomers have, by the lapse of time, mounted up from two and three days to nine and ten days."

*Op. cit.*, II, 214-215.

Now here it will be well to put clearly and plainly the four points which emerge from this rambling and not very lucid exposition

The *first* is that the *Lā wa Lā* formula was a matter of common knowledge in the days of Aurangzeb, who understood it just in the way that I have done, and regarded it as embodying a rule capable of yielding *substantially accurate* results.

The *second* is that the occasional variations of a day in the lengths of the months which introduce an apparently perplexing element of uncertainty into the system were due to two causes:—

(A) The aggregate number of days assigned to the twelve months in the formula amounts altogether to only 365. The True Solar year however, is reckoned in the Tables of Ulugh Beg, which Shāh Fathu'llah followed, at 365 days, 5 hours, 45 minutes and 27 seconds (*Āin-i-Akbarī*, Jarrett, Trans. II, 24; Text, I, 274, l. 21). It was therefore necessary to adjust the reckoning so as to make the Nauroz coincide, as nearly as possible with the moment of the Sun's entrance into Aries. One has only to turn over the pages of the *Tūzūk* and the *Bādishhānāma* to notice with what care the authors record the exact hour and minute at which the Sun entered Aries. (Rogers and Beveridge's Trans. I, 85, 165, 191, 235; II, 1, 130, 230-294, etc.

(B) The Ilāhī months were True Solar months [*Māh-i-Shamsī haqīqī*] of unequal lengths expressed, in each case in periods of days, hours, minutes and seconds.<sup>1</sup> To obviate the trouble and chances of error involved in the cumulative summation of such fractions, the rule was established that if the actual transit of the sun from one sign to another took place *before* sunset on a particular day the next month should be supposed to have begun on the same day, and the old month to have lost a *whole* day. On the other hand, if the transit occurred a minute *after* sunset, that day was reckoned as the [سابع] or last day of the old (or current) month, which gained a whole day, i.e. had one apportioned to it over and above its normal or customary share.

The *third* point is that though Aurangzeb forbade the celebration of the Nauroz in 1069 A.H., he did not, at the time, prohibit the parallel entry of the Ilāhī months (not years), in the *Daftar* or Records. All that he would appear to have done in that year, was to direct, as his father had done long since, that the Hijrī months and years should be written *before* the Ilāhī months. The place of honour was to be given to the Arabian or lunar months and years, but the corresponding solar months and days were still permitted to be registered *after* them, for reasons connected with the Imperial System of Book-keeping and Audit. It was customary to keep Almanacks [نقاروم] in all the offices for ascertaining the exact solar correspondences of the Hijrī or lunar dates. This was the state of things during the first ten years of the reign. In the eleventh (1079-80 A.H.) under the influence of his rising

<sup>1</sup> In fact the method adopted was practically identical with the old Indian system of calculating the solar months which is still in vogue in Bengal and Southern India and familiar to all students of Hindu Chronology. Mr Pillai writes: "Whether in the Tāmil country or in Malabār or in Bengal, the measure of the solar months is the same. Like the solar year, each solar month ends at a *fraction of the day*, that is, at the moment when the next *Sankrānti* takes place. For purposes of computation, the *Sankrānti*, as well as the month to which it gives its name, is reckoned from the very moment at which the previous month ends. *But in practice in the Tāmil country, when a Sankrānti takes place after sunset, the next month begins next day; and when the Sankrānti occurs before sunset, that is the first day of the next month and the old month loses a day.*" (Indian Chronology, p. 8). According to the *Surya Siddhāntā*, the exact length of each of the twelve solar months is:— 30·93; 31·42; 31·64; 31·47; 31·01; 30·44; 29·89; 29·47; 29·31; 29·44; 29·82; 30·35 days. (*Ibid.*), Table II, p. 2.)

But in practice, the number of days assigned to the months is as follows:—

30, 31, 31, 31, 31, 30, 29, 29, 29, 29, 30. (*Ibid.*, p. 8.) It will be seen that the Tāmil rule is almost the same as that mentioned by Khāfi Khān and that the months with 31 days each and 29 days each are arranged continuously in both systems. See also Sewell and Dikshit, Indian Calendar, p. 12.

religious zeal, he prohibited the publication of almanacks and their use in the Accounts Department. When the officials urged that under such orders it would be impossible to keep an accurate Register of Military and Civil pay and allowances, Aurangzeb replied that the '*Lā wa Lā*' formula was capable of providing a compendious and efficient substitute for the laborious lucubrations of the astronomers. It would seem, then, that the *Ilāhī months* (not *years*) were not altogether banished from the *Musters* and *Pay-lists* or *Civil* and *Military Accounts* even in Aurangzeb's reign. At any rate, there are good reasons for believing that the *Ilāhī months* and *days* of important events were carefully registered side by side with the *Hijrī months* and *days*, for many years after Aurangzeb's accession. This is sufficiently proved so far as the first ten years of that Emperor are concerned, by the fact that there are at least seventy *Hijrī-Ilāhī synchronisms*, all relating to that decade,<sup>1</sup> in the *Official Chronicle* of Muḥammad Kāẓim which was written by the express orders of the Emperor and was even submitted repeatedly to him for approval. (Elliot and Dowson, VII, 174 ; *Bibl. Ind. Text*, 23.)

This is not all. The parallel entry of the *Ilāhī months* and *days* (not *years*) does not appear to have been altogether discontinued even in the reigns of Aurangzeb's successors. My attention has been arrested by the following additional synchronisms in the pages of *Khāfi Khān*. Almost all of them have reference to important events which occurred between the 1118th and 1136th years of the *Hijra*. (1707-1724 A.C.).

Friday, 28th *Zī-l-qa'da*, 1118 A.H. = 13 *Isfandārmaz Māh-i-Ilāhī* (Aurangzeb's death).

*Khāfi Khān*, Text, II, 549, l. 11.

18 *Rab'ī I*, 1119 A.H. = 29 *Khūrdād* (Battle of Jājau).

*Ibid.*, II, 590 l. 9.

18 *Zī-l-hajja* [1119 A.H.] = 21 *Isfandārmaz Māh-i-Ilāhī* (second anniversary of Bahādur Shāh, Shāh 'Ālam I's *Julūs*).

*Ibid.*, II, 607, l. 11.

Beginning of *Zī-l-hajja* [1121 A.H.] = End of *Dai Māh-i-Ilāhī*. (Heavy rains for five days.) *Ibid.*, II, 670, l. 5.

Middle of *Zī-l-qa'da* 1123[*recte*, 1124] A.H. = 25 *Āzar Māh-i-Ilāhī*. (Jahāndār Shāh leaves Dehli to encounter Farrukh-siyar.)

*Ib.*, II, 700, l. 6.

<sup>1</sup> See pp. 30, 42, 43, 46, 50, 61, 85, 94, 129, 131, 152, 160, 229, 319, 361, 426, 431, 432, 446, 450, 465, 480, 490, 562, 587, 591, 612, 616, 623, 633, 641, 739, 754, 761, 764, 813, 816, 826, 831, 835, 839, 840, 842, 846, 850, 853, 859, 862, 868, 878, 884, 887, 916, 936, 937, 938, 957, 958, 962, 975, 978, 1030, 1031, 1032, 1047, 1060.

Beginning of Rab'ī I, 1123 [*recte*, 1124] A.H. = 2nd decade of Farwardīn *Māh-i-Ilāhī*. Farrukhsiyar coins money in his own name at Patna.)  
*Ib.*, II, 711, l. 11.

13 Zī-l-ḥajja, 1124 A.H. = 19 Dai *Māh-i-Ilāhī*. (Battle between Jahāndār Shāh and Farrukhsiyar.)  
*Ib.*, II, 701, l. 16.

13 Zī-l-ḥajja, 1124 A.H. = 19 Dai *Māh-i-Ilāhī*. (Battle between Jahāndār Shāh and Farrukhsiyar.)  
*Ib.*, II, 721, l. 6.

Saturday, 20 Rajab, 1131 A.H. = 17 Khūrdād *Māh-i-Ilāhī*. (Accession of Raf'ī u-d-daula.)  
*Ib.*, II, 831, l. 4.

Saturday, 15 Zī-l-qa'da 1131 A.H. = 8 Mihr *Māh-i-Ilāhī*. (Accession of Muḥammad Shāh.)  
*Ib.*, II, 840, l. 16.

Wednesday, 9 Rab'ī II, 1131 A.H. = 10 Isfandārmaz *Māh-i-Ilāhī*. (Accession of Raf'ī u-d-darajāt.)  
*Ib.*, II, 816, l. 6.

11 Zī-l-ḥajja, 1132 A.H. = 20 Mihr *Māh-i-Ilāhī*. (Accession of Muḥammad Ibrāhīm.)  
*Ib.*, II, 914, l. 12.

5 Jumādā I, 1134 A.H. = 3 Farwardīn *Māh-i-Ilāhī*. (Nizām-u-l-Mulk Āṣaf Jāh is made Vazīr of the Empire.)  
*Ib.*, II, 939, last line.

Beginning of Jumādā II, 1135 A.H. = Middle of Isfandārmaz *Māh-i-Ilāhī*. (Nizām-u-l-Mulk returns to Dehl.)  
*Ib.*, II, 947, l. 7.

23 Muḥarram, 1136 A.H. = End of Shahrivar *Māh-i-Ilāhī*. (Battle of Shakkār Khara or Fathkhelda.)  
*Ib.*, II, 953, l. 8.

There is no reason for supposing that Khāfi Khān worked out these equivalents himself or that he went to the trouble of collecting all the Taqwīms for these years for transcribing the Ilāhī correspondences. He must have known that there was not the smallest necessity of giving *both* dates and that his account of the transactions of these years would not derive any additional value from that circumstance. The most probable explanation seems to me to be that he took them straight from the contemporary 'Court Circulars' (*Wāqī'as* or *Akhbārs* in which it was the practice to record *de die in diem* the proceedings of the Emperor, and other public events of consequence.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Several of these contemporary *Akhbārs* or news-letters are preserved in the British Museum. Mr. Irvine has mentioned and used some

The *fourth* point noted by the historian is that the results of the application of the *Lā wa Lā* formula were not quite satisfactory, and that he had found, from a personal inspection of the Official Records, that there was always a difference between the dates worked out by that method and the more exactly calculated dates in the Almanacks of the Astronomers, and that this difference varied from two or three days up to nine and even ten days with the 'lapse of time' (مرور ایام).

This is, on the face of it, not a little disconcerting. The allegation, *if absolutely correct*, would knock the bottom out of the formula. On the other hand, it is not easily reconcilable with certain facts which we have just ascertained for ourselves. We have found the Rule yielding results that were in close or substantial agreement with the synchronisms *recorded in contemporary* chronicles. In seven cases out of sixteen picked out at random, we obtained absolutely identical results. In nine, there was a difference, but that difference amounted to only one day. Such coincidences are ample warrant for maintaining the substantial accuracy of the formula. What then are we to think of this positive statement to the contrary? The historian tells us that he had personally examined the 'Daftars' and compared them with the almanacks. He could be scarcely in error about such a simple matter. The fact is, paradoxical as it may seem, that his assertion is well-grounded—when properly explained and understood—and there are at the same time, no good reasons for distrusting our own calculations also.

Our author asserts that the amount of the error varied directly with 'the lapse of years,' and that, in some cases, it rose to nine or ten days. This is startling, but no one who has thoroughly grasped the *principles* of the solar method of computation should have any difficulty in understanding the reason. The year on which it was founded was the *Sāl-i-Shams i-Haqīqī* of 365 days, 5 hours, 45 minutes and 27 seconds. The total number postulated by the formula was only 365. So long as the Nauroz was regularly observed at Court, this excess was taken into account and the error was officially *corrected* year by year, under the direction of the Court Astronomers by *small readjustments* of the lengths of the months. All the dates which we have seen working out correctly relate to the period during which the Nauroz was uninterruptedly celebrated at Court, the precise moment of the sun's entrance into Aries ascertained with great exactness and solicitude and the correction regularly made from one year to another. In other words, it is true that we have used the formula, and the Table of *Ilāhī*

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relating to the reign of Bahādur Shāh, Shāh 'Ālam I. *J.A.S.B.*, 1896, p. 211. They are occasionally quoted by Mr. Jadunāth Sarkār also in his writings.

days is actually based upon it, but *our* data were the *corrected data* for each year which are recorded in the contemporary annals, so that the formula was applied under such circumstances as precluded the possibility of any large error. The Hijri equivalents of the initial days of the hundred and five solar years comprised in this period (963–1068 A.H.) have been all meticulously recorded in the chronicles, and with these ‘corrected data’ to start with and base our calculations upon, we need entertain no serious apprehensions as to the fundamental accuracy of our results.

The case stands differently so far as the subsequent years (1069 A.H. *et seq.*) to which alone *Khāfi Khān’s* remarks apply, are concerned. For some time after the abolition of the Nauroz celebration the clerks were still able to readjust the reckoning with the aid of the Almanacks. The difficulty began when their publication as well as consultation was forbidden. It was then nobody’s business to set right the reckoning. It was probably beyond the knowledge and competence of the Official class, even if there had been a general desire to do so. In these circumstances, the error must have inevitably assumed more and more serious proportions with the ‘lapse of time.’ *Khāfi Khān’s* criticism therefore, however justifiable so far as the reigns of Aurangzeb and his successors are concerned has no bearing on the earlier period to a part of which alone—be it noted—the ‘Ilāhī issues’ are really confined. A knowledge of Hijri-Ilāhī synchronisms can be required by the numismatist only in connection with the mintages of Akbar, Jahāngir and, *perhaps*, of Shāh Jahān, and so far as that period is concerned the results arrived at by the application of the formula may be safely said to be sufficiently correct and reliable.

The sum and substance of this disquisition the object of which was to discover the secret, i.e. the inherent principles or ‘fundamental elements’ of the solar method of reckoning established by Akbar may be now stated.

The year of the new system was the ‘True Solar Year’ of which the length was estimated on the basis of the *Zich-i-Jadīd* or the Gurgāni Tables of Ulugh Beg at 365 days, 5 hours, 45 minutes and 27 seconds.

The months also were ‘True Solar Months’ commencing successively at the moment the sun entered the different signs of the Zodiac. They were of unequal lengths, because the number of days the sun takes to pass from one sign to another varies from 29 days and a fraction to 31 days and a fraction. The minimum length of a month was therefore 29 and the maximum 32 days. The normal duration of each month is formulated in the serial order in the ‘*Lā wa Lā*’ couplet,

This rule or norm was sometimes modified for reasons of accuracy or convenience.

As the year was theoretically a True Solar Year, provision

was made for bringing it into exact accord with the Revolution of the sun and making the New Year begin as nearly as possible from the precise moment of the sun's passage into Aries. These corrections necessarily involved slight readjustments in the normal lengths of the months.

The rule was further subject to modification for another reason. The transit of the sun from one sign to another was liable to take place at any moment of the day or night but it would hardly do in practice to make each month begin from some different hour of the *nycthemeron*. A convention was therefore established that when the entry of the sun into the next sign took place *before* sunset on a particular day, the next month began on the same day and the old month lost a day. *Per contra*, if the transit occurred *after* sunset the next month was held to commence on the day following and the old or current month gained one day.

The operation of this rule introduces a certain element of uncertainty in the conversion of *Ilāhī* dates into their corresponding equivalents of other eras, but this factor of variation is reduced to negligible proportions by the circumstance that for the entire period covered by the reigns of Akbar, Jahāngir and Shāh Jahān, we have the advantage of having for the bases of our calculations certain extremely useful data, the accuracy of which is beyond all reasonable doubt. These data are the *Hijrī* correspondences of all Solar New Years' Days from the year of Akbar's accession to that of the deposition of Shāh Jahān (963-1068 A.H.). In these recorded synchronisms, we possess checks or 'controls' of which it would be difficult to over-estimate the value. With these fixed points to start from, in the case of every one of the hundred and odd years with which Numismatists are likely to have any concern, the application of the '*Lā wa Lā*' formula (*i.e.* the scheme of *Ilāhī* days embodied therein) gives results which are demonstrably accurate for all practical purposes. The discrepancy in no case exceeds one day—a margin of error for which allowance has to be made even in the carefully constructed Chronological Tables of Cunningham, Wustenfeld and others.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> "In comparing these [*scil.* Wustenfeld's] "Tables," Mr. R. S. Poole writes, "with the Cairo Almanacs of A.H. 1243 to 1250 and 1259 to 1263 and 1265, it appears that in three cases the first day of the year, 1 Muharram, is dated one European day later by the Egyptian Almanack. In the conversion of dates, we must therefore expect a degree of uncertainty as to the day of the month in both Muslim and European reckoning." Coins of the Shahs of Persia, *Introd.* XVIII. For the explanation of the discrepancy see *ibid.*, XVI.

TABLE I—For Hijrī Years.

Day of month.	i	ii	iii	iv	v	vi	vii	viii	ix	x	xi	xii	Day of month.
	Muharram.	Ṣāfer.	Rab'ī I.	Rab'ī II.	Jumādā I.	Jumādā II.	Rajab.	Shā'ban.	Ramzān.	Shawwāl.	Zī-l-qa'da.	Zī-l-hajja.	
1	..	30	59	89	118	148	177	207	236	266	295	325	1
2	1	31	60	90	119	149	178	208	237	267	296	326	2
3	2	32	61	91	120	150	179	209	238	268	297	327	3
4	3	33	62	92	121	151	180	210	239	269	298	328	4
5	4	34	63	93	122	152	181	211	240	270	299	329	5
6	5	35	64	94	123	153	182	212	241	271	300	330	6
7	6	36	65	95	124	154	183	213	242	272	301	331	7
8	7	37	66	96	125	155	184	214	243	273	302	332	8
9	8	38	67	97	126	156	185	215	244	274	303	333	9
10	9	39	68	98	127	157	186	216	245	275	304	334	10
11	10	40	69	99	128	158	187	217	246	276	305	335	11
12	11	41	70	100	129	159	188	218	247	277	306	336	12
13	12	42	71	101	130	160	189	219	248	278	307	337	13
14	13	43	72	102	131	161	190	220	249	279	308	338	14
15	14	44	73	103	132	162	191	221	250	280	309	339	15
16	15	45	74	104	133	163	192	222	251	281	310	340	16
17	16	46	75	105	134	164	193	223	252	282	311	341	17
18	17	47	76	106	135	165	194	224	253	283	312	342	18
19	18	48	77	107	136	166	195	225	254	284	313	343	19
20	19	49	78	108	137	167	196	226	255	285	314	344	20
21	20	50	79	109	138	168	197	227	256	286	315	345	21
22	21	51	80	110	139	169	198	228	257	287	316	346	22
23	22	52	81	111	140	170	199	229	258	288	317	347	23
24	23	53	82	112	141	171	200	230	259	289	318	348	24
25	24	54	83	113	142	172	201	231	260	290	319	349	25
26	25	55	84	114	143	173	202	232	261	291	320	350	26
27	26	56	85	115	144	174	203	233	262	292	321	351	27
28	27	57	86	116	145	175	204	234	263	293	322	352	28
29	28	58	87	117	146	176	205	235	264	294	323	353	29
30	29	..	88	..	147	..	206	..	265	..	324	354	30

This Table shows the interval (in days) between New Year's Day and each subsequent day of the Hijrī year. For example, 10 Ramzān comes 245 days after, or 22 Zī-l-hajja 346 days after, the first day of that same year.

<sup>1</sup> It is only in the Intercalary Year that Zī-l-hajja (xii) contains 30 days.



TABLE II—For *Ilāhī* Years.

Day of month.	30	30	29	29	30	30	31	31	31	32	31	31	Day of month.
	Isfandärmuz.	Bahman.	Dai.	Āzar.	Āban.	Mihr.	Shahrivar.	Amardād.	Tir.	Khūrdād.	Ardibehisht.	Farwardin.	
	xiii	xi	x	ix	viii	vii	vi	v	iv	iii	ii	i	
32	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	272	..	..	32
31	..	..	..	..	..	..	179	210	241	273	304	335	31
30	1	31	..	..	119	149	180	211	242	274	305	336	30
29	2	32	61	90	120	150	181	212	243	275	306	337	29
28	3	33	62	91	121	151	182	213	244	276	307	338	28
27	4	34	63	92	122	152	183	214	245	277	308	339	27
26	5	35	64	93	123	153	184	215	246	278	309	340	26
25	6	36	65	94	124	154	185	216	247	279	310	341	25
24	7	37	66	95	125	155	186	217	248	280	311	342	24
23	8	38	67	96	126	156	187	218	249	281	312	343	23
22	9	39	68	97	127	157	188	219	250	282	313	344	22
21	10	40	69	98	128	158	189	220	251	283	314	345	21
20	11	41	70	99	129	159	190	221	252	284	315	346	20
19	12	42	71	100	130	160	191	222	253	285	316	347	19
18	13	43	72	101	131	161	192	223	254	286	317	348	18
17	14	44	73	102	132	162	193	224	255	287	318	349	17
16	15	45	74	103	133	163	194	225	256	288	319	350	16
15	16	46	75	104	134	164	195	226	257	289	320	351	15
14	17	47	76	105	135	165	196	227	258	290	321	352	14
13	18	48	77	106	136	166	197	228	259	291	322	353	13
12	19	49	78	107	137	167	198	229	260	292	323	354	12
11	20	50	79	108	138	168	199	230	261	293	324	355	11
10	21	51	80	109	139	169	200	231	262	294	325	356	10
9	22	52	81	110	140	170	201	232	263	295	326	357	9
8	23	53	82	111	141	171	202	233	264	296	327	358	8
7	24	54	83	112	142	172	203	234	265	297	328	359	7
6	25	55	84	113	143	173	204	235	266	298	329	360	6
5	26	56	85	114	144	174	205	236	267	299	330	361	5
4	27	57	86	115	145	175	206	237	268	300	331	362	4
3	28	58	87	116	146	176	207	238	269	301	332	363	3
2	29	59	88	117	147	177	208	239	270	302	333	364	2
1	30	60	89	118	148	178	209	240	271	303	334	365	1

This Table shows the interval (in days) between New Year's Day and each day of the immediately preceding *Ilāhī* year. For example, 29 Dai comes 61 days before, or 28 Mihr 150 days before, the first day of the next year.

### III. ABUL FAZL'S INVENTORY OF AKBAR'S COINS.

The tenth Chapter of the First Book of the *Āin-i-Akbarī* contains an elaborate description of the "Coins of the Glorious Empire" [دولت جاوید]. The substance of the 'inventory' has been extracted by Mr. Lane Poole (B.M.C. *Introd.* lxxii-lxxiv), who has surveyed it from the view-point of a professed numismatist and delivered the opinion that it "forms but another instance of the incapacity of the Oriental (or for that matter, most European) historians to describe accurately or systematically the coins which passed under their own eyes" (*loc. cit.*, LXXII). In this description, the place of honour is naturally given to the issues in gold, and more than 30 *principal* types and varieties are enumerated. The section relating to the *Sihansāh*, *Rahas*, *Atmah* and other phenomenal gold-pieces is quoted *in extenso* in its proper place, the Note on the so-called 'Gigantic Coins.'

Nineteen gold coins of lower denominations are then listed and the official or popular designation of each is specified. The shape, weight and value of each and, in some cases the inscriptions or legends on one side or both are also transcribed.

It is easy for the scientifically-trained expert of our own day to find fault with this catalogue, and condemn it because it does not come up to our expectations and gratify the almost insatiable craving for precise information on all matters relating to antiquity which is one of the characteristic features of the intellectual life of our time. Mr. Lane Poole complains that "Abūl Fazl gives a long list of names without supplying the necessary means of identifying the coins to which they belong. Many of the types he describes do not appear to have been preserved in any collection, whilst many existing coins are not described." The fact of the matter is that Abūl Fazl does not profess to give anything like an *exhaustive* account of the coinage of the *entire reign*. The description itself is preceded by the following introduction or preamble of which the full significance does not seem to have been realised. "As through the attention of his Majesty, gold and silver have been brought to the greatest degree of purity, in like manner the form of the coins has also been improved. The coins are now an ornament to the treasury, and much liked by the people. I shall give a few particulars [لکھتی از آن باز گذارد *Lakhti*, lit. = somewhat, some, a little] Blochmann, *Tr.* I, 27; *Text*, I, 23. The fact is that here, as in the list of the Imperial Mints,

Abūl Fazl takes no cognizance of the issues of the earlier or non-Ilāhī type (see my Article in Num. Supp. XXXIV, pp. 165-190). He makes no reference to them, and the supposition that he has done so in one instance, is founded only on a modern editor's gloss or explanation, the soundness of which is not beyond question.

Abūl Fazl was not, it should be borne in mind, an antiquarian minutely describing for the benefit of an inquisitive posterity the obsolete and rarely met-with money of a by-gone age. He was a contemporary speaking of matters of every day existence with which his readers were almost as familiar as himself. If many of the types he has described are not preserved in any modern collection, it is surely not a fault for which he can be held justly accountable. There is not the smallest reason for believing that he has 'invented' or described any imaginary pieces. The fact complained of merely shows that modern coin-hunters have, after more than a hundred years' pursuit of Akbar's gold, been able to make up only an indifferent bag, and the reasons of this failure are by no means, inexplicable or difficult to divine. If at the same time, many existing coins are not described, it is merely because it was no part of the author's intention to notice all.

Let me now transcribe the passage itself from Blochmann's English Translation.

"8. The *Āltābī* is round, weighs 1 tolah, 2 māshahs and  $4\frac{3}{4}$  surkhs, in value equal to 12 rupees. On one side, '*Allāhu Akbar, jalla jalaluhū,*' and on the other, the date according to the Divine era and the place where it is struck.

9. The *Ilāhī* is round, weighs 12 māshahs,  $1\frac{3}{4}$  surkhs, bears the same stamp as the *Āltābī* and has a value of 10 rupees.

10. The square *La'l-i-Jalālī* is of the same weight and value; on one side, '*Allāhu Akbar,*' and on the other '*Jalla Jalāluku.*'

11. The '*Adlgutkah*' is round, weighs 11 māshahs and has a value of nine rupees. On one side, '*Allāhu Akbar,*' and on the other, '*Yā Mu'īnu.*'

12. The *Round Muhur*, in weight and value equal to the '*Adlgutkah*' but of a different stamp.

13. *Mihirābī* is in weight, value and stamp the same as the *round muhur*.

14. The *Mu'īnī* is both square and round. In weight and value it is equal to the *La'l-i-jalālī*, and the *round muhur*. It bears the stamp '*Yā Mu'īnu.*'

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<sup>1</sup> To this the following note is attached in Blochmann's translation: 'It has the *Kalimah* (Sayyad Ahmad's Edition of the *Āin*).' I venture to question the accuracy of this gloss. Abūl Fazl's own words لیکن موقوفش دیگرگون will not bear any such meaning.

15. *Chahār gōshah*, in stamp and weight the same as the *Ājtābī*.
16. The *Gird* is the half of the *Ilāhī*, and has the same stamp.
17. The *D'han* is half a *La'l-i-Jalālī*.
18. The *Sālīmī* is the half of the '*Adlgutkah*.'
19. The *Rabī* is a quarter of the *Ājtābī*.
20. The *Man* is a quarter of the *Ilāhī* and *Jalālī*.
21. The *Half Sālīmī* is a quarter of the '*Adlgutkah*.'
22. The *Panj* is the fifth part of the *Ilāhī*.
23. The *Pandau* is the fifth part of *La'l-i-Jalālī*; on one side is a lily, and on the other a wild rose.
24. The *Sumnī* or *Asht siddh*, is one-eighth of the *Ilāhī*; on one side, '*Allāhu Akbar*,' and on the other, '*Jalla Jalālulahu*.'
25. The *Kalā* is the sixteenth part of the *Ilāhī*. It has on both sides a wild rose.
26. The *Zarah* is the thirty-second part of an *Ilāhī*, and has the same stamp as the *Kalā*.

As regards gold coins, the custom followed in the Imperial Mint [سرافرب حضور] is to coin *La'l-i-Jalālīs*, *D'hans* and *Mans*, each coin for the space of a month. The other gold coins are never stamped without special orders." *Op. cit.*, I, 29-30; Text, I.

Perhaps the most arresting feature of this catalogue is the care displayed in inventing for each coin a new and discriminating designation. Akbar's passion for innovation has been the subject of universal remark and his fondness for neologisms often transgressed the bounds of reason and common sense. Badāoni informs us that the Emperor got a Brahman named Purukhottam "to invent particular Sanscrit names for all things in existence" (Lowe, II, 265), and we have the word of Abūl Fazl for the assurance that it was his Majesty who brought the words, *Ibachkī*, *Shāhālū*, *Sabras*, *Halālkhūr*, *Kanchanī*, etc., into vogue. (*Āīn*. Tr. I, 46, 65, 135, III, 257.) Elsewhere, he informs us that Akbar "changed the names of several garments and invented new and pleasing terms" for at least a dozen articles of daily wear. (*Ibid.*, I, 90) Several of these "new and pleasing terms" are found on examination, to be only fanciful and far-fetched equivalents of good old Persian words, witness, *Sarbgātī* (all-covering) for *Jāma* (coat) '*Chitrugupita*' for *Burqu* (veil), '*Sissobhā*' (head-ornament) for *Kulah* (cap) and '*Charndharn*' (footholder) for *pāi aḥzār* (shoes). We observe the same peculiarity in some of the names given to the different kinds of gold coins. *Ājtābī*, *Ilāhī*, *Mihrābī*, *Mū'īnī*, *Chahārgosha*, *Sālīmī*, *Rabī* (Arab. ربع, a fourth) and *Sumnī* (ثمان, an eighth) stand in no need of elucidation, but there are others of which it is not at all easy to trace the origin or the

rationale. \* *Adlgutkah* is a very puzzling hybrid formation and all that I can suggest as to its etymology is that its first part is the Arabic word *جود* which is frequently found impressed on Muhammadan coins to signify "goodness of weight or fineness of metal" (Codrington, 9-10) and after which the 'Adlis of Muḥammad Tughlaq were named. (Thomas, 221, I.M.C. II, Introd. 9.) The second half of the compound is perhaps connected with the Sans. *Gutikā*, 'a pill, any small globe or ball' (Monier Williams, Dictionary s.v.). The 'Adlgutkah was a round disc of gold of standard weight and fineness. *D'han* and *Man* ordinarily mean 'Wealth' and 'Mind,' and it is exceedingly difficult to see why the half and quarter *Jalālī* were so called. They seem to be illustrations of the 'quips and cranks' and verbal conceits from which many of Akbar's neologisms undoubtedly derived their inspiration. *D'han* and *Man* are inseparably associated in a famous Indian formula. Among the Vallabhachāryas and several other Hindu religious sects, "the three-fold" *Samarpana* or consignment of *Tan*, *Man* and *Dhan*, 'body, mind and wealth' to the 'Gurū' or Spiritual teacher is a *sine qua non* of discipleship. (H. H. Wilson, Hindu Religions, Calcutta Reprint, 1899, p. 83; History of the Sect of Mahārājas, 85).<sup>1</sup>

Gold is 'Dhan,' wealth *par excellence*, so the moiety of the gold-piece was called by that name, and this naturally suggested the selection of its congener. *Man*, as the designation of the quarter-piece.

The name *Asht sidh* given to the immediately succeeding subdivision in the quaternary scale is another example of the fanciful association of monetary denominations with words and phrases with which they have no real relation. All the Hindu writers on the Yoga Shāstra speak of eight supernatural or thou-

<sup>1</sup> This was copied in the *Din-i-Ilāhī* founded by Akbar with a difference. "During this time," Badāonī writes, "the four degrees of devotion to His Majesty were defined. The four degrees consisted in readiness to sacrifice to the Emperor Property, Life, Honour and Religion" (Lowe's Trans. II, 299; Text, II, 291). It is worth while comparing the above statement with the following extract from the account of the *Rudra-Sampradāya* or Vallabhachārya sect in the Bombay Gazetteer. Initiation of a novice in the Vallabhachārya doctrine begins in childhood. The first instruction begins between the second and fifth year \* \* \* A later and more important initiation takes place after the eleventh or twelfth year. After this second initiation, the votary is supposed to consecrate his *tan* (body), *man* (mind), and *dhan* (wordly belongings) to the deity" or his incarnation on Earth, the Gurū (*op. cit.*, Vol. IX, pt. I, Gujarat Population, p. 536).

It may be permissible to add that this denomination of the half-muhr was not unknown in the time of Shāh Jahān. The author of the *Badishāhnāma* explicitly says in one place that the moiety of the muhr was called *Dhan* and its quarter *Charn* (Text, II, 318). Elsewhere, the same chronicler informs us that a Mullā Tayyib received on one occasion from the Emperor a present of "500 dhans or 250 Ashraffis" (1058.A.H. XX R), Text, II, 678, last line).

maturgic powers which it is possible to acquire by the assiduous practice of the system. They are called the *Asht-sidhī* and are enumerated in Monier Williams' Dictionary (*s.v.* *siddhī*)<sup>1</sup> and many other places. They are described by Abūl Fazl also in his account of the School of Patanjali (Jarrett, *Āin*. Tr III, 187) and he even admonishes his readers that "although such powers may seem incredible in the eyes of those affected by the taint of narrow custom, those who acknowledge the wonderful power of God, will find in it no cause of astonishment." (*Ibid.*). Akbar's habit of associating freely with Hindū Jogīs and Sannyāsīs is the frequent theme of Badāoni's gibes and sneers (Lowe, II, 265, 334-5), and he was undoubtedly familiar with their pretensions if not credulous enough to pin his faith to them.

The denomination of the 16th part of the *Ilāhī* is also derived from the Sanscrit, *Kalā* means 'a part of anything, \* \* \* but especially a *sixteenth* part, a digit or one-sixteenth of the Moon's diameter.' (Monier Williams, *s.v.*). The last and smallest of the fractional pieces undoubtedly owes its appellation to the Arabic *ḥab* 'an atom, particle' (Steingass *s.v.*). The tiny gold coin drawing only 55 grains described by Rodgers (*J.A.S.B.* 1896, p. 222) obviously answers in weight to a 'Zarah.'

Mr. Stanley Lane Poole was most advantageously situated for acquiring a competent knowledge of the Mughal coinage. His familiarity with Arabic and Turkish literature and his acquaintance with the entire monetary system of Muḥammadan nations was almost unrivalled. His opinions, therefore, must always command respect and attention. My own appreciation of his labours is best exemplified and borne witness to by the numerous citations from and references to his catalogue in these and other studies. But he does not appear to me to have read Abūl Fazl or any other Mughal historian critically or even at first hand, and I find it impossible to agree with many of his animadversions on this part of the *Āin*.

"Abūl Fazl," he writes, "is obviously wrong in attributing an issue of *La'l-i-Jalālīs* to the 27th year of the reign, for it was not till the 28th year that the *Ilāhī* era and the formula *Jalla Jallālūhu* were introduced," (*loc. cit.*, lxxv). I beg leave to state that this is founded on a double error or misconception. It is not Abūl Fazl who is wrong either 'obviously' or otherwise. It is Mr. Lane Poole who has misunderstood him. In confidently asserting that it was not till

<sup>1</sup> The great Arab polymath and Indianist, Albīrūnī also gives an account of these *Siddhīs* or "the faculty of doing eight different things by which detachment is realised" in his chapter on the System of Patanjali (India, Sachau's Trans. I, 69). See also Max Müller, *Six systems of Indian Philosophy*, Ed. 1903, p. 351.

the 28th year that the *Ilāhī* era was introduced, the critic himself is demonstrably in error. Abūl Fazl informs us that the *Ilāhī* era was inaugurated *after* the arrival of Shāh Fathu'llah Shīrāzī in 992 A.H.—the 29th year. He says so twice in the *Āin* (Tr. II, 1 and 30) and he reiterates the statement in the *Akbarnāma* (Tr. Beveridge II, 17 and 22), Mr. Lane Poole will have it that he is mistaken and to convict him of error, triumphantly cites "the positive evidence of the rupee No. 177 which bears the regnal year 28." (B.M.C. Introd. lxi, Note.) The truth is that Mr. Lane Poole has misread the date, which is 48 and not 28. The rupee is well known to all coin-collectors, as the mint-name on it which has been variously deciphered as Sitpūr or Sitāpūr and is most probably neither, is one of the unsolved problems of our science. But this is a side-issue. The germinal point lies elsewhere. Mr. Lane Poole contends that there could have been no *La'l-i-Jalālīs* in the 27th year of the reign, because the formula *Jalla Jalāluhu* was, together with the *Ilāhī* era, introduced only in the 28th. This contention has its origin in a misconception or an imperfect apprehension of the following statement of his author: "The currency underwent several changes. *First*, when (in the 27th year) the reins of the government were in the hands of Rājah Tōdarmal, four kinds of muhurs were allowed to be current: A). There was a *La'l-i-Jalālī*, which had the name of his Majesty stamped on it, and weighed 1 tōlah, 1½ surkhs. It was quite pure, and had a value of 400 dāms. Again there existed from the *beginning of this glorious reign*, a Muhur with the imperial stamp of which three degrees passed as current," and was valued at 360, 355 and 350 dāms, according as it had lost in weight less than 3, 6 and 9 *rice grains* respectively) (*Āin*, Tr. I, 32).

There can be little doubt that Mr. Lane Poole's strictures are due to his having mixed up two very different types of coins and understood the remarks made about one as applicable to the other. The *La'l-i-Jalālī* which is described in *this passage*, as having had the name of his Majesty impressed on it and weighed 1 tōlah and 1½ surkhs was far from being identical with the *La'l-i-Jalālī* of the *Inventory*, which had 'Allāhu Akbar, on one side and 'Jalla Jalāluhu,' on the other. The two coins were of the same weight, but there was this difference between them that one type was stamped with the *actual name of his Majesty*, i.e. the legend *Jalālu-d-āin Muḥammad Akbar*, etc., and the other with only the 'Divine Faith' Formula. The *La'l-i-Jalālī* which weighed 1 tola, 1½ surkhs and was valued by Todarmal in the 27th year at 400 dāms is exemplified by Nos. 66–70 of the B.M.C. The present weights of all these coins range from 186–188 grs. which is almost exactly equal to 1 tola 1½ surkhs at 181–186 grains to the tola. The origin of the confusion probably lies in the assumption that

the *La'l-i-Jalālī* was so-called because it displayed the formula *Jalla Jalāluhu*. For this supposition there is no warrant, and it is clear from the words of Abūl Fazl that this designation had been borne several years before the inauguration of the Ilāhī Era or the introduction of the Formula by the Muhrs issued from the ateliers of Aḥmadābād, Fathpūr and Lāhor in 986, 987 and 988 A.H. (P.M.C. 122, B.M.C. 66-70 and I.M.C. 98) and perhaps, by the *Urdū Zafar Qarīn* mintages of the year 'Alf' (B.M.C. 73-77, P.M.C. 124) also. The real reason for the designation is not far to seek. They bore the *laqab Jalālu-d-dīn* of the Emperor [و ان بگرامی نام روشناس]

The second count of the indictment is, that of "Akbar's large coins," the five-muhr piece "preserved in the British Museum (No. 23) is not mentioned in Abūl Fazl's list." This is easily answered. I have shown in the Note on the 'Gigantic Coins' that it is mentioned and identified it with "the one-twentieth part" of the lower *S'hansah* mentioned in a passage which has been overlooked or missed by Mr. Lane Poole (*Ā'in*. Tr. Blochmann, I, 29, ll. 16-17, Text, I, 24, two lines from foot). This lower or less heavy *S'hansah* weighed 91 tolas 8 māshas. One-twentieth of this would be  $4\frac{7}{10}$  tolas or  $847\frac{1}{10}$  grains at 185 grs. to the tola. This is very near the recorded weights, 838 and 841 grs. of the two specimens known.

The last count of the charge is that Abūl Fazl entirely ignores "the singular square issues of Fathpūr in 986, etc., and of *Urdū Zafar-Karīn* of 1000, though these have the peculiarities of a square form, and a heavier weight than the rest." I have already suggested that these coins are *La'l-i-Jalālīs* of the earlier or non-Ilāhī type. The 'Kalima' and the *Khalīfas*' names on the obverse and the full style and titles of the Emperor on the reverse sufficiently indicate that they belong to a period with which Abūl Fazl does not concern himself in the Inventory.

Some of Mr. Lane Poole's attempts to identify the coins described by Abūl Fazl with those preserved in the British Museum Collection are, it is to be feared, open to challenge. It is not at all easy to understand why he asserts that B.M.C. No. 165, weighing 187 grs. is an *Ā/tābī* and characterises No. 164 as a *Rab'ī* or quarter *Ā/tābī*. The author of the *Ā'in* says that the *Ā/tābī* weighed 1 tola and 2 māshas and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  surkhs. (Blochmann, Tr. I, 39.) Even if the tola of Akbar is supposed to have weighed only 180 grs. the *Ā/tābī* must have scaled 218 grs., i.e. 31 grains more than Mr. Lane Poole's coin. I venture to suggest that the weight and shape of No. 165 point to its being an *Ilāhī*. The legends also are in complete agreement with Abūl Fazl's description. No. 164 is not a *Rab'ī*. Its weight (42 grs.) is adverse to the identification. If the



*Rab'ī* was the quarter of the *Āftābī* of "1 tola, 2 māshas and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  surkhs" (i.e. about 226 grs.), it must have drawn about 55 grs.


It may be also permissible here to make a few remarks about the "Round Muhr" [مهر گرد] mentioned in this list (No 12). Mr. Lane Poole says it was worth (like the 'Adlgutkah) nine rupees and supposes that it had the *Kalimah* stamped upon it (B.M.C. LXXIII). This is founded on a note appended to Blochmann's translation: "It has the *Kalimah* (Sayyed Ahmad's edition of the *Ain*)" I venture to say that the gloss is unauthorized and founded on a misconception of the author's meaning. I submit that the *Muhr-i-Gird* of the Inventory is the 'Round Muhr' of the *Ilāhī* type, of which there are so many specimens in our collections. In weight and value it was identical with the '*Adlgutkah*, but it was "of a different stamp" [منقوش دیگرگون Text, I, 25, l. 13]. It had on the obverse "Allāhu Akbar" alone and 'Jalla Jalāluhu' with the regnal date on the Reverse (B.M.C. 163, I.M.C. 109, P.M.C. 158-9) or 'Allāhu Akbar' as well as 'Jalla Jalāluhu' on the obverse and the date only on the Reverse (B.M.C. 164-5, I.M.C. 75.) The Reverse inscription of the '*Adlgutkah* <sup>یا معین</sup> was very different, and that is the reason for the separate enumeration of this [مهر گرد] 'Round Muhr.' The '*Kalimah*' type of *Muhrs* belong to a style and period of which the author takes no notice and there is no reason to believe him to have gone out of his way to allude to them in this instance. It may be also urged in support of this view that the acceptance of Sayyed Ahmad's conjectural identification leaves no room in the list for the commonest type of Akbar's *Ilāhī* gold coins. In other words, we must, if it is accepted, suppose that Abūl Fazl has omitted to mention the one type of all others with which we are most familiar and which must, at the time have been the one most frequently found in circulation also. This is a supposition which we have no positive grounds for entertaining and it is but fair to so laborious and painstaking and (as a rule) accurate writer to interpret his words with a certain amount of latitude and refrain from fastening upon them a meaning which involves a gratuitous charge of error or omission.

There is a point in this connection which should not be lost sight of by any one who is inclined to deliver an *ex cathedra* opinion on the merits or demerits of this inventory. It is that the number of *Ilāhī* gold coins extant is absolutely too small for the demands of legitimate induction. Taking the catalogues of the British, Indian and Panjāb Museums and of the magnificent collection of Dr. White King, there are in all

171 gold coins of Akbar of which only 27 are of the *Ilāhī* type. But of these twenty-seven, 18 are explicitly dated in years subsequent to that in which Abūl Faḥl formally completed the *Āīn*, viz. 42 R.Y. Three exhibit no date at all. We have thus only six issues falling within the period of which Abūl Faḥl was professedly writing, the period intervening between the 30th and 42nd years of the reign.<sup>1</sup> It will be universally admitted that these six coins can hardly furnish sufficient grounds for convicting Abūl Faḥl of the faults of omission and commission imputed to him.

It is also necessary to draw attention to the note of warning embodied in the concluding paragraph of the description. "As regards gold coins, the custom followed in the Imperial Mint is to coin *La'l-i-Jalālīs*, *D'hans* and *Mans*, each coin for the space of a month. The other gold coins are never stamped without special orders." The words are important and it is unfortunate that their significance has not been realised. The author explicitly informs his readers that the *La'l-i-Jalālī*, and its half and quarter were the only gold coins which were regularly or normally struck. All the other types and varieties enumerated were never stamped without special orders. The historian's own passion for detail has led him to furnish us with "copious and somewhat tedious statistics" (Thomas, *Chronicles*, 424) about them, but they were in reality nothing but fancy pieces of which a few specimens were occasionally uttered for gratifying the Imperial vanity or love of novelty, and there is nothing to be wondered at in their extreme rarity or total disappearance.

The description of gold coins is followed by a list of the issues in silver which contains only nine items. We read :—

"The rupee [  ] is round and weighs eleven and a half māshas. It was first introduced in the time of Shér Khān.

<sup>1</sup> The gold coins are B.M.C. Nos. 23-83 and 183-186, I.M.C. 64-190, P.M.C. 118-159 and W.K. 3492-3500. The only *Ilāhī* coins in the B.M.C. are Nos. 163 (32 R.) 164 (42 R.) 165 (44 R.), 166 (45 R.), 167-169 (49 R.), 170-174 (50 R.), 175 (51 (?) R.) and 176 (Undated).

The Indian Museum has but three, Nos. 75 (42 R.), 83 (48 R.) and 109 (30 ? R.).

Mr. Whitehead registers seven, viz. Nos. 125 (Dateless), 135 (49 R.), 136-138 (49 R.), 158 (33 R.), and 159 (Dateless).

The three in the White King Cabinet were numbered 3497 (40 R.), 3498 (44 R.) and 3499 (50 R.). There are only six coins with dates ranging from the 30th to the 42nd year. One is (doubtfully), of the 30th year, one of the 32nd, one of the 33rd, one of the 40th and two of the 42nd or last. Three others exhibit no date, and it is impossible to say whether they fall within or without the period. In the recently published Lucknow Museum Catalogue, 29 gold coins of the Great Emperor are registered. Four of them only are of the *Ilāhī* type. One of them is of the 48th year (No. 94), two are of the 50th (Nos. 79-89). The only one falling within the period is a Mintless Muhr of the 33rd year (No. 94 a).

It was perfected during this reign, and received a new stamp, on one side *Allāhu Akbar, Jalla Jalālahu*, and on the other, the date. Although the market price is something more or less than forty dāms, yet this value is always set upon it in the payment of salaries,

2. The *Jalālah* is of a square form which was introduced during the present reign. Its value and stamp is the same as No. 1.

3. The *Darb* is half a *Jalālah*.

4. The *Charn* is a quarter *Jalālah*.

5. The *Pandau* is a fifth part of the *Jalālah*.

6. The *Asht* is the eighth part of the *Jalālah*.

7. The *Dasā* is one-tenth of the *Jalālah*.

8. The *Kalā* is the sixteenth part of the *Jalālah*.

9. The *Sūkī* is one-twentieth of the *Jalālah*.

The same fractional parts are adopted for the [round] rupee, which are however different in form."

[ و این ریزه زرہا از رویہ نیز بر سازند دیگر گونگی در پیکر بود ]

(*Ā'in*, Tr. Blochmann I, 31 ; Text, I, 26.)

It would appear from this that the designation *روپیہ* was restricted to the 'Round Rupee' and applied to it alone. The discriminative appellation of the 'Square Rupee,' which is explicitly said by Abūl Fazl to have been first struck in the 22nd year of the reign (*Akbarnāma*, Tr. III, 321 ; Text III, 227) was *Jalālah*. A silver issue of Āgra mint (47 R) bears the denomination *روپیہ* on its surface. It is in the collection of the Bodleian Library (P.M.C. xxv) and is unique, but it is reassuring to find that it is *round*. It is not easy to say how far this attempt at desynonymisation was really successful. It is not at all unlikely that the common people cared little for these verbal subtleties and that they never took kindly to the new-fangled distinction. Whether it was round or square, the silver piece of  $11\frac{1}{2}$  māshas was known to them as the *روپیہ* even during Akbar's reign. At any rate it is certain that the *Jalālah* is not heard of after the accession of Jahāngīr although square rupees were not infrequently struck in that Emperor's reign. (P.M.C. 964-5, 967-8, 970, 972-3 (Āgra) ; 1090-2, 1101, 1103-4 (Lāhor) ) In a word, it would seem that the new appellation was consigned to oblivion like many other innovations of the Great Emperor.

Abūl Fazl says of the *روپیہ* that "it was first introduced in the time of Sher Khān" [ در زمانِ شیر خان . پدید آمد ]. He

could hardly mean that no silver coin resembling the *روپیہ* had been struck by any of the Dehli Sultāns before Shīr Shāh. All that he intended to say probably was that this *specific designation* came into vogue in Shīr Shāh's reign and super-

seded the word *tanka* which had been indiscriminately applied in earlier times not only to the issues in silver, but to those in gold and copper. The first attempt to put an end to the terminological confusion was now made. The old term *tanka* was restricted to the issues in copper or the billon pieces of Sikandar Lodī, etc., which were approximately equal in value to two of the new copper pieces of about 323 grs. troy. A new word روپیه, from the Sanskrit *Rupaka* was introduced to designate the new silver piece and for its counterpart in gold another distinctive appellation was found in the familiar Arabic term *Ashrafi* or the equally common Persian word *Muhr*.

The strange name devised for the moiety of the *Jalālu* calls for remark, درب in Arabic and Persian, only means 'a difficult pass through mountains, a street, lane, alley or large gate' (Steingass, *s.v.*) and it is not possible by any ingenuity to establish a connection between the two vocables. I beg to suggest that the name is derived not from the Arabic درب but from the Sanskrit *Dravya* 'wealth, goods, chattels, money.' We have seen that the half of the *La'l-i-Jalālī* muhr had been called *Dhan* which also signifies wealth, treasure, riches, money, gold, chattels' (Monier Williams, *s.v.*). It is not difficult to imagine how its prototype in silver came, by a fanciful analogy, to have the synonymous appellation *Dravya* and how this was first softened into 'Drabya' and then *Drab*' and '*Darb*.' The immediately following designation is certainly derived from the Sanskrit *Charṇa*, a foot, a single line of a verse, the *fourth part of a stanza*' (Monier Williams, Dictionary *s.v.*) It is in fact identical with the vernacular *pāi* in its double sense of 'foot' 'and a quarter.' The last name '*Sūkī*'<sup>1</sup> is inexplicable except on the supposition of its being *Bi-wakī* (from *Biswah*, the twentieth part) with the initial consonant elided. Here again the concluding sentence of the paragraph deserves attention. Abūl Fazl says that the round rupee or Rupiya had differently shaped but otherwise similar subdivisions. He does not state that they had specific names of their own, and we may perhaps infer from his silence that it had not been thought worth while to devise any. This would imply that the half-rupee was called *Darb*' whether it was square or round, and that the other subordinate pieces had identical names regardless of their form

It may be as well to add that specimens of all but two of

<sup>1</sup> This curious denomination occurs only once again, to my knowledge, in the historical literature, viz. in the *Āin*, Bk. 1, Ch. 3, where the author says that the charge for boring a pearl of the 5th class was 'one *sūkī*, i.e. only 2 *dāms*. (Blochmann's Tr. 1, 16.)

these fractional types are extant in our collections. The exceptions are the *Pandau* and the *Sūkī*.

A description of copper coins follows :—

“The *Dām* weighs 5 tānks, i.e. 1 tolah, 8 māshahs and 7 surkhs; it is the fortieth part of the rupee. At first this coin was called *Paisah* and also *Bahlōlī*; now it is known under this name (*dām*). On one side the place is given where it was struck and on the other the date. For the purpose of calculation, the *dām* is divided into twenty-five parts, each of which is called a *jétal*. This imaginary division is only used by accountants

2. The *Adhelah* is half of a *dām*.

3. The *Paulah* is a quarter *dām*.

4. The *Damrī* is one-eighth of a *dām* (Blochmann, *Āin*, Tr. I, 31).

The metrological equation embodied in the leading sentence has been fully discussed in another article. The second sentence leaves much to be desired in the matter of definite expression. The statement implying the identity of the ‘*Paisah*,’ ‘*Bahloli*’ and ‘*Dām*’ is exceedingly loose and unsatisfactory. Abūl Fazl’s vagueness may not be inexcusable. He was speaking of matters and employing terms of which the exact connotations were perfectly familiar to his readers, but it is, all the same not a little tantalising to ourselves. It leaves unanswered and coolly ignores several questions on which we might have justly expected him to shed the light of his great knowledge. As the points which he leaves undetermined have been clearly set out and discussed by Thomas (Chronicles, 360–3) and as I have nothing to add to his explanations and comments, I must conclude with the observation that the denominations ‘*dām*,’ and ‘*damrī*’ are actually inscribed on some very rare issues, but the terms ‘*Adhelah*,’ and ‘*Paulah*’ receive no recognition from the coins.

## IV. "GIGANTIC COINS.

The massive medals in gold and silver which it was the pride of the Mughal Emperors to stamp with their titles and store in their treasure-houses have been, for centuries, the theme of envy and admiration. The earliest mention of these 'phenomenal' pieces in European literature occurs in the Voyages of Captain William Hawkins, who was profoundly impressed by the wealth and magnificence of the Court of Jahāngīr. Writing about 1611 he informs his readers that the Emperor's "Treasure is as followeth :—

The first is his severall Coine of gold.

In primis, of Seraffins [Ashraffs] Ecberi, which be ten Rupias a piece, there are sixtie Leckes. Of another sort of coyne, of a thousand Rupias a piece, there are twentie thousand pieces. Of another sort of halfe the value, there are ten thousand pieces. Of another sort of gold of Twenty Tolas a piece, there are thirtie thousand pieces. Of another sort of five Tolas, which is this Kings stampe, of these there be fiftie thousand pieces.

Of Silver as followeth :—

In primis, of Rupias Ecbery, thirteen Cror (every Cror is an hundred Leckes and every Lecke an thousand [*sic*] Rupias) or one thousand three hundred Leckes. Of another sort of Coine of Selim Sha this king, of an hundred Tolas a piece, there are fortie thousand pieces. Of twenty Tolas a piece, there are thirtie thousand pieces. Of ten Tolas a piece, there are twentie thousand pieces. Of five Tolas a piece, there are five and twentie thousand pieces."

Hawkins' Voyages, Ed. C. R. Markham, pp. 421-2.

It will be noticed that in this description the name of Akbar is associated only with the 100, 50 and 20—muhr pieces in gold and that the 100, 20, 10 and 5-tola medals in *silver* are expressly ascribed to and said to have borne the name of "Selim Sha, this king."

In the *De Imperio Magni Mogolis* of John de Laët (pub. 1631) there is an elaborately-drawn up inventory of the treasure said to have been found at Akbar's death in the fortress of Āgra. We are concerned at present only with the first item which is as under :—

"I. Gold coins. The king had arranged for striking some of these weighing 100 tolas each or 1,150 māshas; some also weighing 50 and 25 [tolas]; all of which when reckoned according to the true weight of māshas weighed 69,70,000, māshas, and at the rate 14 Rupees to a māsha were worth

altogether 9,75,80,000½ Rupees". *Cp. cit.*, second Issue, p. 138, Trans by V. A. Smith in *J.R.A.S.*, 1915, p. 237.

There is a very similar account of the "cash reserve accumulated by Akbar" in the 'Itinerary' of Sebastian Manrique, a Spanish friar" who served for thirteen years as a missionary in India and other parts of Asia," and whose book was published at Rome in 1649. He gives an almost identical list of the Āgra treasure and says that he obtained it through an officer named "Mirza Camerane [Kāmraṇ] who was in charge of the *Nacassar*<sup>1</sup> of Rājmahāl." He has the very same total figures and the paragraph about the 100, 50 and 25 tola pieces is also found in his pages. Mr. Vincent Smith declares that the Dutch author's copy of the official inventory of Akbar's hoards supplies "one of the numerous facts of importance neglected by historians and biographers" and he has enlarged on its merits in a special article in the *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society*. He lays particular stress also on the fact that Manrique's list agrees substantially with De Laët's, all though it is "clearly quite independent of the latter." The only difference he has noticed is that Manrique "omits the fraction ½ [of a rupee] at the end of the total of the cash and occasionally describes the items with slightly greater fulness." (*Loc. cit.*, 236.) He is sure that, both of them were *directly* transcribed from official records and are peculiarly deserving of credit.

It is therefore strange that he should have overlooked the fact of these five or six lines being vitiated by at least four errors so gross as to throw serious doubts on the authenticity and credibility of the entire statement.

In the first place, both these authors assert that the weight of one variety of these pieces was 100 tolas or 1,150 māshas and that the total weight of the 'gigantic coins' of the three varieties enumerated (100, 50, and 25 tolas) was 69,70,000 māshas. And we are likewise informed with an ostentatious display of mathematical precision that the aggregate value of these 69,70,000 māshas of gold was just "9,75,80,000½ Rupees" at "the rate of 14 rupees to a MASHA"! Now this "rate of 14 rupees for a māsha" of gold is a palpable absurdity. It is

<sup>1</sup> It is not easy to say what Persian word is thus transmogrified by the Friar or rather by his copyist or printer. Mr. Vincent Smith confesses his bafflement and suggests that 'Nacassar' is perhaps derived from *Naqsha*, 'register'. This is hardly the correct signification of that word, and the derivation is, besides, conclusively negative by Manrique's statement that the *Nacassars* were 'the buildings [las casas in the original] for the deposit of the rentals and annual revenues of the realm' (*loc. cit.*, 235-6), I venture, with great diffidence, to say that what the author meant to write was *Cassanars* [khazānas], and that the compositor has made all this puzzlement by transposing the syllables. Mirzā Kāmraṇ, in this view, was the officer-in-charge of 'Ḥuẓūr Treasury' at Rājmahāl.

clear that both these ‘authorities’ are confusing the ‘Tola’ with the ‘Māsha,’ its twelfth part, and the pretentiously accurate calculation founded on this absurdly exaggerated valuation must be pronounced untrustworthy.

Secondly, we are told, with the same parade of exact statement, that each of the heaviest pieces weighed 100 tolas or 1,150 māshas. This equation is open to doubt and cannot be allowed to pass unchallenged. One hundred tolas full weight would be equal to 1,200 māshas not 1,150. We know that Muhrs of three different weights, viz. 14 māshas,  $4\frac{3}{4}$  ratīs, 12 māshas,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ratīs, and 11 māshas were introduced by Akbar and specimens of the two last varieties are to be found in fairly large numbers in our public and private cabinets. But a gold coin of  $11\frac{1}{2}$  māshas does not appear to have been ever struck by Akbar. It was the Mughal rupee which weighed  $11\frac{1}{2}$  māshas and our authors would seem to have naïvely imagined that the Akbarī muhr weighed  $11\frac{1}{2}$  māshas because the rupee had that weight.

Again, we know that there were two types of the *S’hansu* or one hundred-muhr piece. The heavier turned the scale at 101 tolas, 9 māshas and 7 ratīs, i.e. about 1,222 māshas. The lighter drew 91 tolas and 8 māshas, i.e. only 1,100 māshas. Abūl Fazl (*Āin*, Trans. Blochmann, I, 27-8) explicitly says so and his testimony invalidates all the computations based on the supposition that a piece containing 1,150 māshas or 95 tolas and 10 māshas had been stamped.

Lastly, if this “official and trustworthy” inventory was copied *directly* from registers or documents of the time of Akbar, it is difficult to understand why the price of a *tola*<sup>1</sup> of gold should have been reckoned at the high figure of 14 rupees. There might be good reasons for believing that the ratio of gold to silver was 14 to 1 in the time of Shāh Jahān, but it is exceedingly doubtful if a tola of the more precious metal was worth much more than 10 rupees in the last years of Akbar. Abūl Fazl informs us that the eleven-māsha muhr was worth only nine rupees, and the gold piece weighing twelve māshas (or a tola) and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ratīs had the value of 10 rupees. (*Āin*, Trans. Blochmann, I, 30). Indeed, Thomas was, after examining all the available evidence, confidently of opinion that the relative value of the two metals was only 9:4 to 1 in the reign of Akbar (Chronicles, 424-5).

These errors, oversights and ignorant glosses are not negligible. Many of them are vital and go to the very root of

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<sup>1</sup> The word actually used by both writers is of course *Māsha*, but we may fairly suppose that what was really intended was the *tola*, and I am giving them ‘the benefit of this doubt’ and arguing that even then there is a serious blunder which proves that the statement has been garbled by the copyists in the light of their own half-knowledge.



the matter and it is impossible to explain them away. I do not wish to say that the inventory is altogether faked or spurious, but it seems to me, after taking the most indulgent view of the matter, difficult to escape the conclusion that the contemporary Registers or documents from which the details are said to have been drawn have been so grossly misunderstood and their true meaning so seriously misrepresented by the ill-informed exegesis of the paraphrasts that neither the Latin version of De Laët nor the Spanish rendering of Manrique can be relied upon.

But although the value of this inventory as a historical document is thus considerably discounted, it is not altogether without interest or instruction for the numismatist. It confirms the statements of Hawkins about these 'gigantic' pieces and the fact that there is no reference in it to similar medals having been stamped on silver by Akbar is also significant.

We read in the Travels of J. Albert de Mandelslo :—

"This king Achobar had ordered the Coynage of a certaine sort of Money of 25. 50. and a hundred Toles, which amounted to two thousand twelve and a halfe, four thousand twenty five, and eight thousand and fifty crowns the piece, which was coined accordingly, to the sum of six Millions, nine hundred and seventy thousand Massas [Māshas] which make ninety seven Millions, five hundred<sup>1</sup> and eighty Ropias, or forty-eight Millions, seven hundred and ninety thousand crowns."

*Op. cit.*, Translation of John Davies. Second Edition, London, 1669, p. 37.

Mr. Vincent Smith has, in another special paper on the subject, conclusively shown that this passage and all that follows concerning Akbar's treasure is not to be found either in the two German editions of Mandelslo's Travels which appeared in 1646-7 and 1656 or in the Dutch version of 1651. It was inserted for the first time in 1659 by his French translator, De Wicquefort, who copied it either from De Laët or Manrique and "conveyed" it to his own pages. (*J.R.A.S.*, 1915, pp. 248 and 234). The above statement, therefore, has no independent value and must stand or fall with the source from which it is drawn.

There is a characteristically blundering reference to there

<sup>1</sup> The word 'thousand' has been here left out by the printer. He Laët and Manrique agree in having 9,75,80,000. Mandelslo takes the crown as equivalent to two rupees, and his figures for the rupee value of the 25, 50 and 100 tola pieces are arrived by multiplying the number of the tola first by  $11\frac{1}{2}$  and then by 14. Thus he reckons the 25 tola gold-piece at 2,012½ crowns or 4,025 rupees ( $25 \times 11\frac{1}{2} \times 14$ ) = ( $25 \times 11\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2}$ ) = 4,205 rupees! In other words, the tola of gold is rated at 161 rupees! This huge exaggeration is, on the face of it absurd, and it is safer to reject the entire statement than to accept it.

'Gigantic Coins' in the Indian Section of J. B. Tavernier's *Travels*. This writer gives 'a figure' or illustration, and says that it "shews what sorts of pieces the Kings cause to be thrown among the people when they came to the throne. They represent the Arms or Signets of the Kings whom I have nam'd. The biggest, in the middle, was Cha-jehan's, the tenth king. These pieces are most of them Silver; there being very few of Gold. And as for Aureng-zeb, he never coin'd any particular pieces to throw away at his coronation." *Op. cit.*, English Trans. of *J.P.* 1678, Pt. II, page 107. The passage is in Ball's Translation also (I, 324) but the figure, of the 'piece' which is four inches in diameter is not reproduced.

This figure, however, bears no resemblance to any known coin. It is really nothing but a representation of the Seal of Shāh Jahān! The name of the Emperor is in a central or inner circle and those of his ancestors up to Timūr are inscribed in nine circles round about. There is a rough and not very faithful drawing of the similar seal of Jahāngīr in Purchas, *His Pilgrimes* (Ed. 1625-6, I, 591), and William Terry, Sir Thomas Roe's chaplain, has reproduced it more inaccurately still, in his 'Voyage to East India' with the following explanation:—

"And after that I have caused his Imperial signet or great seal to be laid down before my readers' eyes; wherein nine rounds, or circles, are the names and titles of Tamerlane, and his lineal successors, in Persian words. \* \* \* This seal (as it is here made in Persian words) the great Mogul, either in a large, or lesser figure, causeth to be put into all *Firmaunes*, or Letters Patents, the present King's Title put in the middle and larger circle that is surrounded with the rest." (*Op. cit.*, 347-8, see also *The Embassy of Sir Thomas Roe*, Ed. Foster, 564 ff).

An illustration of the closely-resembling signet with which Aurangzeb used "to attest all the farmans and the grants that he accorded" will be found in Manucci's *Storia* (Trans. II, 388-9; see also III. 231).

A similar seal of Farrukhsiyar with the names of his twelve ancestors is reproduced from an extant Farmān by Mr. Irvine in his valuable Monograph on the 'Later Mughals' (*J.A.S.B.* 1904, p. 358). A description of that of Shāh 'Ālam II, with fourteen outer circles is given by Blochmann, (*Proc. A.S.B.* 1870, p. 8), and there is a beautiful reproduction also in the *Journal of the Panjāb Historical Society*, Vol. V, Pl. I.

Abūl Fazl informs us that in the beginning of Akbar's reign, Maulānā Maqsūd 'cut in a circular form \* \* \* the name of his Majesty and those of his lineal ancestors up to Timūrlang' (*Aīn*, Tr. Blochmann, I, 52) and this style of signet would seem to have been employed in the Imperial Chancellerie up to the time of Shāh 'Ālam II. No coins corresponding

in any way to Tavernier's description or exhibiting on either face the names of the Emperor and all his ancestors up to Tīmūr have been discovered, and it may be confidently said that the jeweller is confounding, in his usually inaccurate and slipshod manner, things which had not the smallest connection with each other.

It was not the 'gigantic medals' but the tiny *Nigārs* which were "thrown among the people," when the kings "came to the throne," and neither *Nigārs* nor medals had the arms or signet of the king engraved upon them. Nor is it true to say that "Aurengzeb never coined any particular pieces to throw away at his coronation." for *Nisārs* struck by him are actually in existence.

The Venetian Manucci appears to have been much more correctly informed about this matter than the French jeweller. "Shah Jahan," he writes, "had in his palace two treasure-houses, one for gold another for silver. These receptacles were two square cisterns seventy feet long and thirty feet high \* \* \* In the treasury for gold, there were current coins worth each seven *patacas*. There were other coins, which were not current, of the value of seven hundred, of three thousand five hundred, and of seven thousand *patacas*.<sup>1</sup> These were very beautiful and the king gave them as presents to his ladies. When I was attending as Physician of one of these, she made me a present of one of these coins."<sup>2</sup> Irvine, *Storia*, I, 206.

Coming down to later writers, we have an elaborate description of a 200-muhr-piece of Shāh Jahān, dated 1064-28, in Richardson's Persian Arabic English Dictionary (pub. 1777) s.v.

آك. A very similar piece of the same regnal year and Hijra date, with slight variations in the arrangement of the legends was described and figured by Mr. J. Gibbs in the Proceedings of the Asiatic Society of Bengal (1883, pp. 3-4). Two years later, an excellent photograph of a hundred-muhr piece of Aurangzeb (1083-XV R) was published by the same persevering

<sup>1</sup> The *pataca* or *patacoon* (Arab. *Abūlāqa*, 'father of the window, see Yule, Hobson-Jobson, s.v.) was one of the numerous designations of the Spanish dollar. It is frequently mentioned by Manucci and is always reckoned by him as equal to 2 rupees. (*Storia* II, 45, Note; IV, 144, Note). The current coin 'worth seven patacas' was, therefore, the ordinary gold muhr of 14 rupees. The other pieces valued at 700, 3,500, and 7,000 patacas were the portentous medals weighing as much as 100, 500 and 1,000 muhrs. The most noteworthy point in this extract is that these pieces are expressly said to have been 'not current' and to have been used only as gifts or presents.

<sup>2</sup> Here at least, Manucci is not romancing. We know that Shāh Jahān gave Ḥakīm Dāūd a muhr of 500 tolas and a rupee of the same weight as a reward for treating his favourite daughter Jahānārā after her accident and effecting her recovery. *Bādīshāhnāma*, II, 399, l. 3.

coin-hunter. (*Loc. cit.*, 1885, p. 52). A silver medal of the same Emperor (X R) weighing 200 tolas (5-1545 English pounds) existing in the Cabinet at Dresden was first described by Kehr in 1725. (Thomas, *Chronicles*, 423 Note). Considerably smaller exemplars are also extant. A five-muhr gold-piece of Akbar, dated 971 A.H. (Wt. 838 grains) and a slightly heavier medal (Wt. 843 grains) struck by Jahāngir in the 14th year of his *Julūs* (1028 A.H.) are in the British Museum. A beautiful gold-piece (Wt. 841 grains) struck at Āgra in 982 A.H. was seen thirty years ago in the uncatalogued and indifferently-cared-for collection of the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society. (Codrington, *B.B.R.A.S. Journal*, 1891, pp. 31-2).<sup>1</sup>

The Shāhs of Persia also would appear to have occasionally issued heavy pieces in silver. The British Museum possesses one of Shāh Husain Safavi, dated 1121 A.H., weighing 4.918 grains, and another dated 1118 A.H. weighing 843 grains (R. S. Poole, *Catalogue of the Coins of the Shāhs of Persia*, Nos. 96, 97; Marsden, *Numismata Orientalia*, p. 466, No. DLVI, Prinsep, *J.A.S.B.*, 1838, p. 415). According to Hazlitt, examples of such *pièces de plaisir*, which were "probably not intended for common currency" are not "unfrequent in the European Series" The old Greeks had silver decadrachms and dodecadrachms. A twenty-stater piece in gold of Eukratides, King of Bactria, dated 185 B.C. and weighing 2,593.5 grains was found about fifty years since in the Panjāb, sold to a Paris firm for £800 and transferred by them under the special authority of the Emperor, Napoleon III, to the then *Bibliothèque Imperiale* (now *Nationale*). W. C. Hazlitt, *The Coin Collector*, pp. 40, 264; Thomas, *Chronicles*, 421-2 Note. Prinsep, *Indian Antiquities*, II. 185.

The distinguished author of the 'Chronicles of the Pathān Kings of Dehli' has, with a confidence scarcely justified in the

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<sup>1</sup> Dr. Codrington in his Notes on the Contents of this Cabinet opines that the coin is "the 25th part of a Sihansah" This statement is easily proved to be incorrect. The heavier S'hansah weighed 11 tolas, 9 māshas and 7 surkhs or ratīs. (*Ain*, Tr. Blochmann I, p. 27) or 18,328½ grains at 180 grains to the Tola.  $\frac{1}{25}$ th of this would be only 733 grs. and a fraction. If the tola is taken at the higher figure of 185 grs. this larger S'hansah would have been equal to only 18,833½ grs. and  $\frac{1}{25}$ th of this would give only 753 grs. and a fraction. The actual weight of the coin is 841 grs. and it is obvious that the discrepancy would be much more glaring with the smaller S'hansah of 91 tolas and 8 māshas. The fact of the matter is that the coin represents the *twentieth* part of this second or smaller S'hansah. The weight of the latter in grains would, reckoning the tola as equal to 185 gra. have been 18,858½ grs. and the  $\frac{1}{20}$ th of this would be 942½ grs. which is very near the present weights of the two specimens known, 838 grs. and 841 grs. One thing more may be noted. It will not do to suppose that Akbar's tola contained only 180 gra., for  $\frac{1}{20}$ th of 91 tolas, 8 māshas, at that rate, would be only  $\frac{1}{20} \times 91 \times 180 = 825$  grs. i.e. 13 grains in defect of the lighter specimen. The question is an interesting one and has been more fully discussed in another article.

circumstances, delivered the opinion that the ponderous pieces struck by Akbar and his successors were all intended to be used as coins.

"There was an idea abroad at one time," he writes, "that these Sihansah coins were merely occasional pieces struck more for vanity sake than for real utility; but the number of specimens found ready prepared amid Akbar's reserved treasures, and the continuity of their issue by succeeding kings, seems to indicate that they were consistently designed to serve for the purposes of larger payments, such as our civilized age recognises in one hundred pound notes, etc. Moreover, there was clearly a temptation to the production of such single pieces when the State or the Sovereign himself, as will presently be shown, could realise the seigniorage of  $5\frac{1}{2}$  per cent, or from £5 10s to £27 10s by each application of the royal dies." (*Op. cit.*, 422-3.)

General Cunningham had the sagacity to perceive that the position of Thomas was untenable, but this did not deter him from advancing a precarious hypothesis of his own. "I take both pieces," he wrote to Mr. Gibbs, "to be *Nazzarāna medals*. The noble who had to present 200 gold mohurs to Shah Jahan made a single piece for his offering" (*Proc. A.S.B.*, 1883, p. 4).

What then are we to conclude? Were they really coins, substitutes for "our hundred pound notes, etc.," as the 'Prince of Indian numismatologists' contends with some show of reasoning, or 'Nazzarāna medals' only, as the most gifted and versatile of Indian archaeologists asserts without argument?

It is undoubtedly true that heavy ingots or masses of gold and silver, "bearing the stamp of the assayer and banker in evidence of their purity" were at one time extensively current in the trade of Central Asia and China. Mention may be made of the *Bālīsh* of gold as well as silver which weighed about 500 *Misqāls* and which is frequently referred to in the *Tārīkh i-Jahān Kushāi*, the *Tārīkh i-Waṣṣāf*, the *Jāmi'u-t-Tawārīkh* of Rashidu-d-dīn Fazlu-l-lah, and the *Tārīkh-i-Rashīdī* of Mirzā Haidar Dughlāt. If we take the *Misqāl*, with Mr. R. S. Poole (*Coins of the Shāhs of Persia*, Introd. lxi) at 71·18 grains, this *Bālīsh* would weigh 74·1 ounces Troy. It still survives in the Chinese *Yuan-pao* (Eastern Turki, *Yambū*), and is the 'Boat-money' or 'Shoe-money' of which seven specimens are figured and described in Tavernier's *Travels*. "The Pieces of Gold mark'd Fig. 1, and 2," he writes, "are by the Hollanders called *Goltschut*, that is to say, a Boat of Gold, because they are in the form of a Boat. Other Nations call them Loaves of Gold; and there are but two different sizes of them. The Gold is of such a goodness, that an Ounce in France would not be worth less than 42 Franks. The great pieces come to twelve hundred Gelders of Holland Money and thirteen hundred and fifty Livres of our Money. The other

Piece, which weighs but half as much, is in value according to its proportion.” (*op. cit.*, Eng. Trans. of J.P. London, 1678, Part II, 8.) An extraordinarily large example in silver of this Chinese Shoe-money, weighing 89½ ounces Troy, and representing 50 taels or £8 8s 0d. was exhibited before the Numismatic Society of London. (Athenaeum, Jan. 25, 1902, p. 120, quoted in Yule’s *Hobson Jobson*, Ed. Crooke, 830.) See also Yule, *Cathay and the Way Thither*, 115–117 n, 481 n; *Tārīkh-i-Rashīdī*, Trans. Ross and Ney Elias, 256 n, Raverty. *Ti baqāt-i-Nāsirī*, Trans. II, 962 n, and 1110 n.

The historians of Timūr inform us that after the sack of Damascus in A H. 803, that conqueror ordered all the silver and gold which his followers had acquired as booty to be coined into *pieces* of 100, 50 and 10 Misqāls bearing his own name. We are further told that the amount of bullion melted down was so prodigious that the profit of the Camp-Mint (حاصل دارالضرب اردوی اعلیٰ) amounted to no less than six hundred thousand *Dīnār-i-Kabakī*. (*Zafarnāma* of Sharfu-d-dīn ‘Alī Yazdī, Bibl. Ind Text II, 336 l. 3.)

Bābur tells us that at a great feast and Darbār held at Āgra on Saturday, 6th Rab’ī II, 935 A.H., he gave their congée to the ambassador of Shāh Tahmāsp of Persia, the envoy of Kūchūm Khān Uzbek, and two honoured descendants of Khwāja Ahrār, and presented each of them with ‘a silver stone’s weight of gold and a gold stone’s weight of silver.’ He explains ‘that the gold stone (*tāsh*) was 500 misqāls, that is to say, one Kābul Sir, and the silver stone 250 Misqāls, that is to say, half a Kābul Sir.’ Mrs. Beveridge, in a note, acutely remarks that “the weight made of silver and the weight made of gold were of the same size, and that the differing specific gravity of the two metals, that of silver being *cir.* 10 and that of gold *cir.* 20—gave their equivalents the proportion Bābur states.” She adds that she has “not found mention of the *tāsh* as a recognized Turki weight; perhaps the word *tāsh* stands for an ingot of unworked metal of standard size.” (*Memoirs of Bābur*, 632 and Note. See also Leyden and Erskine’s Translation, 395.) I venture though with great diffidence, to suggest that the thing meant is the *بالش* of the *Tārīkh-i-Jahān Kushāi* and other Mongo chronicles. Perhaps, *نایش* is an error of transcription, the two words being written very much alike in the Semitic character. However that may be, the passage is of great interest, and not without bearing on our subject.

It exemplifies the custom of giving money-presents to ambassadors for “expenses” (الخرجی) and seems to indicate that it was the Central Asian practice or Court etiquette to make the gift not in the form of ‘beggarly deniers’ but in the shape

of a heavy ingot of gold or silver or both. When Jahāngir and Shāh Jahān gave away to the Wakils of 'Ādil Khān and the envoy of Subhān Qullī, the Ruler of Balkh, muhrs of 500 and 200 tolas, they were merely following in Bābur's footsteps. The only difference was that the crude ingot was now replaced by a beautiful disc or medal representing the high-water-mark of the calligrapher and engraver's art.

Then we have in the *Humāyūn Nāma* of Bābur's daughter, Gulbadan Begam; an exceedingly curious account of a good-humoured joke played by the genial Emperor upon one of his old servants, from which it would appear that the 'phenomenal' pieces described by Richardson and Gibbs had their 'numismatic precedents' even in the treasuries of the Lodi Sultāns. Writing of Khwāja Kilān's anxiety to return to Kābul after the victory of Pānīpat, she says:—

"Khwāja Kilān Beg asked leave several times to go to Kābul. He said: 'my constitution is not fitted for the climate of Hindustān.' \* \* \* His Majesty was not at all willing for him to go, but at last gave permission because he saw him so very urgent. \* \* \*

The Emperor [Scil. Bābur] sent by Khwāja Kilān a large *ashrafī*, which weighed three Imperial *Sīr*, that is, fifteen *Sīr* of Hind for \* \* \* 'Asas

[ برون سه میر بادشاهی که پانزده سیر هند باشد ]

He said to the Khwāja: 'If 'Asas asks you, 'What has the Emperor sent for me' say, 'One *ashrafī*,' as there really was only one 'Asas was amazed, and fretted about it for three days. His Majesty had ordered that a hole should be bored in the *ashrafī*, and that 'Asas should be blind-folded and the *ashrafī* hung round his neck. He was quite helpless with surprise at its weight, and delighted and very, very happy. He took it in both hands, and wondered over it and said, 'No one shall get my *ashrafī*.'"

Gulbadan Begam, *Humāyūn Nāma*, Trans, A. S. Beveridge, 94-6: Text, p. 12, l. 8.

It is not easy to equate the expression, 'three *Sīr* imperial (*bādshāhī*) or fifteen *Sīr* of Hind.' The variety of Indian *Sīrs* is truly bewildering, and we have to rely more or less upon conjecture in fixing the meaning of such statements. But, as the Princess wrote down her Reminiscences about 1595 A.H.,

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1 There is a word here in the original which Mrs. Beveridge has left untranslated. It is *عمو*, and literally means 'uncle' (and hence probably the omission), but is in colloquial Persian also frequently employed for any 'aged relative,' 'intimate friend' or 'old family servant.' The hero of the story appears to have belonged to the last class, and to have been free of the harem. Firishhta says, 'Asas was Bābur's jester.

we may fairly suppose her Imperial or Bādshāhī Sir to be the Sir of Akbar. This was, according to Abūl Fazl, equal to 30 Dāms of *approximately* 320 grains each,<sup>1</sup> i.e. about 9,600 grains in all. (Blochmann, *Āin*, Trans. I, 38, 134.)

By Gulbadan's 'Sir of Hind' we are probably to understand the Sir which was current at Dehli in Bābur's days. This, he himself assures us, was equal to 14 tolas (*Memoirs*. Tr. Beveridge, 517; Leyden-Erskine, 332).

Taking the tola at 185 grs, this Sir would be =  $14 \times 185 = 2,590$ . Now if 15 Sirs of Dehli = 3 Akbari Sirs.

$$2,590 \times 15 = 38,850 \text{ grs.}$$

$$\text{but } 9,600 \times 3 = 28,800 \text{ grs only.}$$

It is clear that these results are not reconcilable with each other and we must seek for some other explanation. It is just possible that we have here another example of the unfortunately too common confusion in Persian writing between پانزده (fifteen) and یازده (eleven). Now

$$2,590 \times 11 = 28,470 \text{ grs.}$$

$$9,600 \times 3 = 28,800 \text{ grs.}$$

This gives a sufficiently close approximation, and it is not improbable that یازده is the true reading. We have to remember that only a single Manuscript of the Text is known, which is not deserving of commendation either for general correctness or orthographic rectitude.

But the equation of the two kinds of Sirs mentioned is a matter of secondary importance. The real point is that there was in the treasury of Ibrāhīm Lodī an 'Ashrafi' or gold piece of even larger or more 'gigantic' dimensions than the 100 tola muhrs enumerated with such gusto by Hawkins and Manrique and Mandelslo.

My next quotation is from the *Āin-i-Akbarī* of Abūl Fazl. In a chapter entitled the "Coins of This Glorious Empire," there is an elaborate description of a number of heavy pieces in gold, rising in weight from about two tolas to more than a hundred and one. The passage is a lengthy one, but the details given are so interesting that it would be undesirable to abridge it. It is all the more valuable because of the extreme improbability of a specimen of the Ilāhī type of *S'hu nsah*, *Rahas* or *Ātma* being discovered. But if one of these pieces ever comes to light, it will be not a little helpful to the lucky finder in the decipherment of the inscriptions. Abūl Fazl writes :—

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<sup>1</sup> The theoretical or issue weight is generally supposed to have been 323.5 grains troy but it must be borne in mind that the coins actually used would be the pieces in everyday circulation which had lost several grains by wear.



"The S'hansah is a round coin weighing 101 tōlahs, 9 māshas and 7 surkhs, in value equal to 100 *la'li jalālī*-muhurs. On the field of one side is engraved the name of his Majesty, and on the five arches in the border, *alsultānu ala'zamu alkhāqānu almu'azzamu khallada allāhu mulkahu wa Sultānahu Zarbu dāri-l-khilāfati Āgrah*,—'The great Sultan, the distinguished emperor, may God perpetuate his kingdom and his reign! struck at the capital Āgrah.' On the field of the reverse is the *beautiful formula*, and the following verse of the Qorān: *Allāhu Yarzaqu man yashāu bighairi hisābin*—'God is bountiful unto whom He pleaseth, without measure,' and round about are the names of the first four Califs.

This is what was first cut by Maulānā Maqcūd, the engraver; after which Mullā 'Alī Ahmad made with great skill the following additions. On one side, *Afzalu dīnārīn yanfuquhu alrajulu, dīnārīn yanfuquhu 'ala aḥābihi fi sabīlil-lāh*,—'The best coin which a man expends is a coin which he spends on his co-religionists in the path of God.' And on the other side he wrote:—

*Alsultān al'ālī alkhālīfatu almuta'ālī  
Khallada allāhu ta'āla mulkahu wa  
Sultānahu (sic)wa abbada' adlahu wa ihsānahu—*

The sublime Sultan, the exalted Calif, may God the Almighty perpetuate the kingdom and his reign' and give eternity to his justice and bounty!'

Afterwards all this was removed, and the following two Rubā'is of the Court-poet and philosopher Shaikh Fiazī were engraved by him:—

*Khūrshīd kih haft bahr azū gauhar yāft  
Sang ē siyāh az partav i ān jauhar yāft  
Kān az nazar ē tarbiyat e u zar yāft  
Wān zar sharaf az sikkah i Shāh Akbar yāft.*

It is the Sun from which the seven Oceans get their pearls,  
The black rocks get their jewels from his lustre.  
The mines get their gold from his fostering glance,  
And their gold is ennobled by Akbar's stamp';

and, *allāhu Akbar, jalla jalāluhu*, 'God is great, may His Glory shine forth!' in the middle.

And on the other side:—

*In sikkah kih pīrāyah i ummed buwad  
Bā naqsh i dawām u nām i jāwid buwad  
Simā i sa'ādatash hamīn bas kih badahr  
Yak zarrah nazar kardah i khurshēd buwad.*

This coin which is an ornament of hope,  
Carries an everlasting stamp and an immortal name  
As a sign of its auspiciousness, it is sufficient

That once for all ages the Sun has cast a glimpse upon it, and the date, according to the *Divine era*, in the middle.

2. There is another gold coin of the same name and shape, weighing 91 tolaḥs and 8 māshaḥs, in value equal to 100 round muhrs at 11 māshaḥs each. It has the same impression as the preceding.

3. The Rahas is the half of each of the two preceding coins. It is sometimes made square. On one side it has the same impression as the *S'hansah*, and on the other the following Rubā'i by Faizl :—

*In naqd i rawān i ganj i Shāhinshāhi  
Ba kaukab i iqbāl kunad hamrāhi.  
Khurshéd biparwarash az ānrū kih badahr  
Yābad sharaf az sikkah i Akbar shāhi*

'This current coin of the imperial Treasure  
Accompanies the star of good fortune.  
O Sun, foster it because for all ages  
It is ennobled by Akbar's stamp.

4. The *Ātmah* is the fourth part of the *S'hansah* round and square. Some have the same inscriptions as the *S'hansah*; and some have on one side by the following Rubā'i by Faizl :—

*In sikkah kih dast i bakht rā zéwār bād  
Pirāyah i nuh sipihr u haft akhlār bād  
Zarrin naqdést kār azū chūn zar bād  
Dar dahr rawān bu nām i Shāh Akbar bād.*

'This coin—may it adorn the hand of the fortunate,  
And may it be an ornament of the nine heavens and the seven stars!

Is a gold coin—may golden be its work!

Let it be current for all ages to the glory of Shāh Akbar !'

5. The *Bīnsat* of the same two forms as the *ālmah*, in value equal to one-fifth of the first coin.

There are also gold coins of the same shape and impression, in value equal to one-eighth, one-tenth, one-twentieth, one-twenty-fifth, of the *S'hansah*.

6. The *Chūgul* [or *Jugul*] of a square form, is the fiftieth part of the *S'hansah*, in value equal to two muhrs.

7. The round *La'l i Jalālī*, in weight and value equal to two round muhrs, having on one side *Allāhu Akbar*, and on the other *Yā Mu'inu*—O helper." Blochmann, *Āin*, Trans. I, 27-29.

<sup>1</sup> The text is undoubtedly corrupt and Manuscripts do not agree. The 'chugul' is described very differently in some MSS. which interpolate a muhr called 'chahārgoshah,' weighing 3 tolas, 5½ surkhs and worth 30 rupees. Instead of the round *La'l-i-Jalālī*, some MSS. only read 'Gird,' i.e. round, taking the words *La'l-i-Jalālī* to the preceding. (Blochmann's Note.)

There are in this carefully drawn word-picture several features to which attention may be usefully invited. In the first place, it will be noticed that fanciful names were given to all the largest pieces and all these designations were derived from Sanskrit or the Indian vernaculars. The denomination *S'hansah*, for instance, is to be traced to the Sanskrit *Sahasra*, thousand.<sup>1</sup> The rationale of the name is to be found in the fact that it was equal to 100 *L'al Jalālī* muhrs, each of which was valued at 10 rupees. The *S'hansah* was so called because it was worth *one thousand* rupees.

The word *Binsat* is evidently coined from the Sans *Vin-shatī*, 'twenty.' It was the fifth part of the *S'hansah* of 101 tolas, and so weighed about *twenty* tolas. So *Chugul* or *Jugul* is from the Sanscrit *Yuga*, a yoke, a pair, couple, brace (Monier-William's Dictionary s.v.). It was the fiftieth part of the *S'hansah* and was so named because it was a *double* 'La'l-i-Jalālī.'

*Rahas* and *Ātmah* resemble in sound Sanskrit words meaning 'secret, essence,' and 'soul or spirit.' I must confess my inability to account for the neologisms. They are founded on some more than usually far-fetched conceit, the elucidation of which must be left to a more competent or lucky investigator. It may be also observed that the legends engraved by Maulānā Maqsūd on the earlier issues are practically identical with the superscriptions of the five-muhr pieces dated 971 and 982 A.H. which are preserved in the British Museum, and the Cabinet of the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, (B.M.C., No. 23 and *B.B.R.A.S. Journal*, 1891, pp 31-32). The chief differences are (1) that Abūl Fazl gives خاقان المعظم whereas the epithet is مكرم on both the examples extant: (2) The Qurānic text (Sūra II. 208) also which is said by the author of the *Āin* to have been cut on the reverse cannot be traced on our specimens, though it is to be found on some of the mintages of Humāyūn. (B.M.C., Nos. 19-20). Thirdly, the epithet, 'Dāru-l-Khilāfat' which is prefixed to the name of the mint town in Abūl Fazl's transcript is not discernible on the Coins. Lastly, it may be noted that the word تعالى has been left out by the historian in the benedictory formula although it can be easily read on both the existing specimens. It will be also seen that the earlier issues had prose legends in the Central Asian style. With the inauguration of the

<sup>1</sup> So the name of the silver coin of Kashmir, *Sāsnū* is derived from Kashmirī *Sās*, Sans. *Sahasra*, thousand, because it was reckoned as equivalent to 1,000 *ḍinnāras*, *Āin*, Tr. Jarrett II, 354. Cunningham, *Coins of Mediaeval India*, 30 ff; A. Stein, *Monetary System of Ancient Kashmir*, Num. Chron. 1899, p. 131. Jahāngīr calls the coin *Sanhasī*, *Tūzuk*, Tr. II, 138-9.

Ilāhī type, all the high-sounding titles were 'removed' [سُـمـد، erased, expunged] and metrical legends substituted for them. Now the Ilāhī era was really established only in the twenty-ninth year of the reign (992 A.H.),<sup>1</sup> and we are expressly told by Badāonī that a special verse-motto was composed by Sharif Sarmadī for the first mintages of the new town of Ilahābād which was founded, according to that writer, in the 29th year (Lowe, Trans. II, 345-6, Text II, 335).<sup>2</sup>

In his remarks on this part of the *Āīn*, Mr. Stanley Lane Poole complains that "many existing coins are not described" by the author" and among other things, states that the "five-muhr piece preserved in the British Museum" (No. 23) is "not mentioned in Abul Fazl's list." (B.M.C. Introd lxxv.) I must beg leave to point out that, whatever other instances of omission may be justly cited against Abūl Fazl, this is not one of them. The five-muhr coin is mentioned clearly enough in the following passage which Mr. Lane Poole has overlooked.

"There are also gold coins of the same shape and impression, in value equal to one eighth, one-tenth, *one twentieth*, one-twenty fifth of the *S'hansah*." *Āīn*, Trans. Blochmann, I, 29; *Bibl. Ind.* Text, I, 26.

Now the smaller or lighter type of S'hansah weighed 91 tolas and 8 māshas or about 16.958½ grs. at 185 grs. to the tola. The twentieth part of this would be  $16958\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{20} = 847\frac{1}{4}$  grs. The weight of the British Museum specimen is 838 grs., that of the example in the cabinet of the Asiatic Society of Bombay 841 grs. (*B.B.R.A.S. Journal*, 1891, p. 31).

Lastly, it would appear that the biggest pieces issued in the reign of Akbar did not exceed 102 tolas. Jahāngīr would seem to have been first fired by the ambition of 'going one better' than his great father and to have struck medals weighing as much as 500 and even 1.000 muhrs or (roughly) tolas

It may be also noticed that there is no reference in Abūl Fazl's description or inventory to the stamping in silver of any counterparts of the *S'hansah* and its subdivisions. This is corroborated by Hawkins who says of all the large pieces in silver that they were of "Selim Sha this king" The two other European writers, De Laet and Manrique also absolutely ignore the issues in silver and the silence of all three

<sup>1</sup> The Era was based on the calculations of Shāh Fathulla Shirāzī, an astronomer and mathematician of whom Abūl Fazl says that "if the old books of science had disappeared, he could have laid a new foundation (of knowledge) and would not have wished for what had gone." Akbar-nāma (Tr. III, 593). Fathulla had been invited to India by 'Alī 'Adil Shāh of Bijāpūr and entered Akbar's service only after that ruler's death. His first interview is recorded to have taken place on 25 Farwardīn 28 R.—(21 Rab'ī I, 99! A.H.) Akbar-nāma, Tr. III, 593; see also Blochman, *Āīn*, Trans. I, 33 Note.

<sup>2</sup> Abūl Fazl gives the exact date of the foundation of the fortress as 2 Āzar, 28 R. which would correspond to some day in Zī l-qa'da, 991 A.H.

about Akbari gold medals weighing more than 100 tolas is also not unworthy of attention. It shows again that Abūl Fazl was justified in speaking of the *S'hansah* type as the heaviest known in his day and putting it at the head of his list.

The historian *Khāfi Khān* also has a passage on the subject of Akbar's treasure and his mintages:—

و بعد وفات او که عرض خزانه گرفتند ده کروڑ روپيه را اشرفي يازده ماشه و سيزده ماشه و چهارده ماشه سواى اشرفيهای کلان که از صد توله تا پانصد توله هزار اشرفي در خزانه موجود بود و دوصد و هفتاد و دو من طلای غير مسکوک و صد و هفتاد من نقره و یک من جواهر خاصه که قيمت آن سه کروڑ روپيه تجاوز نموده بود برآمد \*

*Bibl. Ind.* Text I, 243, l. 9.

"And when after his death an inventory (*lit.* muster, report) was taken of his treasure, there were found ten crores of rupees worth of Ashraffis of 11, 13 and 14 māshas, besides the large Ashraffis weighing from 100 to 500 tolas of which there were a thousand in the hoard. There were also 272 maunds of uncoined gold, 370 maunds of silver and one maund of choice or select precious stones [the crown jewels—*جواهر خاصه*], the value of which was reckoned at more than three crores of rupees.<sup>1</sup>

*Khāfi Khān* is a "slovenly" and careless writer (Blochmann's *Art. on 'Koch Bihar and Āsām'* *J.A.S.B.* 1872, p. 99), and his account of Akbar's reign is a compilation of no particular value. But there are in it a few statements which possess considerable interest and which are not to be found anywhere else. This reference to the contents of Akbar's treasury is one of them and it has the usual defects of his qualities. There is no doubt of *Khāfi Khān*'s being right in saying that Akbar's ordinary Muhr weighed 11 māshas (not 11½ as implied or

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Vincent Smith would appear to have overlooked 'the inventory of Akbar's treasure' which is to be found in the History of Firishta who wrote and died several years before either De Laët or Mandelslo. It is thus given in the translation of Briggs.

"Of allayees, a golden coin [*i.e.* Ilāhī gold muhrs], a sum equal to ten crores of rupees, besides one crore's worth of allayees which he set aside for his private treasury. Ten maunds, full weight (800 lb.) of uncoined gold.

Seventy maunds (5,600 lb.) of uncoined silver, sixty maunds (4,800 lb.) of uncoined copper; besides one crore coined into tunkas."

Rise of the Mahomedan Power in India, Calcutta Reprint, 1909, II, 281.

Some of the items are differently given in the Lakhnau edition of the original and are obviously huge exaggerations. *Khāfi Khān*'s statement seems to have been reproduced from some other recension of Firishta's work.

supposed by De Laët and Manrique). But the other two varieties introduced by the Emperor, the *Ilāhi* and the *Ālābi* scaled only 12 māshas and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ratīs and 14 māshas and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  ratīs. Khāfi Khān’s description of their weights is therefore loose or only roughly correct.

It is also very doubtful if gold coins or medals weighing considerably more than 100 tolas were ever struck in Akbar’s reign. The statements of Abūl Fazl, Hawkins, De Laët and Manrique all imply the contrary and their silence militates forcibly against the supposition. It is true that portentous medals of 200, 300, 500 and even 1,000 tolas were stamped by Jahāngir and his successors. This fact would appear to have led Khāfi Khān to assume that Akbar had gone to the same lengths and that they were in this, as in other things following his example. With all these defects, the passage deserves the notice of the numismatist as well as the historian. Of the former for the references to the current Ashrafiis of three different denominations and the so-called gigantic coins; of the latter, for giving an account of Akbar’s treasure of which the exact source is not known, but which is undoubtedly indigenous and altogether independent of and differing considerably from that occurring with slight modifications in European authors.

So far we have learnt nothing definite as to the object of striking these ‘phenomenal coins,’ or the uses to which they were to be put. It becomes necessary therefore to explore the Mughal chronicles of the post-Akbari period and set out at length all the passages which have any bearing on the subject, with a view to provide the material requisite for forming an independent opinion on the point at issue. It will be seen that many of the excerpts which follow are both instructive and illuminating, and that neither the arbitrary conjecture of Cunningham nor the pragmatic assertion of Thomas receives any support from the indigenous chronicles.

The Emperor Jahāngir writes in his diary of the 1st year; “At a propitious hour I ordered that they should coin gold and silver of different weights. To each coin, I gave a separate name *viz.* to the *muhr* of 100 tola, that of *Nūr-Shāhi*; to that of 50 tola, that of *Nūr-Sultāni*; to that of 20 tola, *Nūr-daulat*; to that of 10 tola, *Nūr-karam*; to that of 5 tola, *Nūr-mihr*; and to that of 1 tola, *Nūr-jahāni*. The half of this I called *nūrāni*, and the quarter, *rawāji*. With regard to the silver coins (*sikkaṣ*), I gave to the coin of 100 tola the name of *Kaukab-i-ṭal’i* (star of horoscope); to that of 50 tola, the name of *Kaukab-i-iqbāl* (star of fortune), to that of 20 tola, the name of *Kaukab-i-murād* (star of desire); to that of 10 tola, the name of *Kaukab-i-bakḥt* (star of good luck); to that of 5 tola, the name of *Kaukab-i-sa’ad* (star of auspiciousness); to that of 1 tola, the name of *jahāngiri*. \* \* \* I ordered that on the gold muhr of 100, 50, 20 and 10 tola the following

verse by 'Āṣaf Khān should be impressed—namely, on the obverse was this couplet:—

'Fate's pen wrote on the coin in letters of light,  
The Shāh Nūru-d-dīn Jahāngīr';

and between the lines of the verse the Creed (*kalima*) was impressed. On the reverse was this couplet, in which the date of coinage was signified:—<sup>1</sup>

'Through this coin is the world brightened as by the Sun,\*  
And the date thereof is 'Sun of Dominion' (*Ājtāb-i-mamlakat*).

Between the lines of the verse, the mint, [مکه] the Hijra year, and the regnal year were impressed."

Rogers and Beveridge *Tūzuk-i-Jahāngīrī*, Trans. I, 11. Text ed. Sayyad Ahmad Khān, p. 5, l. 8.

"I gave one gold muhr of 1,000 tolas, which is called the 'star of destiny' (*kaukab-i-tāl'i*), to Yādgar 'Alī, the ambassador of the ruler of Irān." [19 Farwardīn, VIII R.Y.).<sup>2</sup>

*Tūzuk*, Trans. I, 207; Text, 116, l. 1

"On the 8th of the said month [Shahrivar, X R.Y.), I bestowed one *Nūr-jahānī* muhr, which is equal to 6,400 rupees.<sup>3</sup> on Muṣṭafā Beg, the ambassador of the ruler of Irān."

*Tūzuk*, Trans. I, 298; Text. 146, l. 26.

"I gave Sayyad Kabīr, who had been sent by 'Ādil Khān\* one *Nūr-jahānī* Muhr which weighed 500 *tūlcha*."

*Ibid.*, I, 300; Text, 147, l. 29.

"To each of the Wakils of 'Ādil Khān two *Kuakab-i-tāl'i*

<sup>1</sup> The Persian lines are as follows:—

بخط نور بر زد کک ذق—دیر رقم زد شاه نورالدین جهانگیر

and

شد چو خور این مکه نورانی جهان آفتاب مملکت تاریخ آن

(*Tūzuk*, Text 5, ll. 18 and 21.)

<sup>2</sup> This passage occurs also in the *Iqbāl-nāma-i-Jahāngīrī* of Mu'ataṣṣad Khān (*Bibl. Ind.* Text 69, l. 12). He does not give any name to the muhr, but says that it weighed 1,000 tolas or 2,500 *misqāls*.

<sup>3</sup> It is not easy to see how this figure is arrived at. If the *Nūr-jahānī* muhr weighed 500 *tulchas* or tolas, as is stated in the immediately following extract, a tola of gold must have been worth 12 Rs. 12 annas and 8½ pies. Jahāngīr himself seems to say in one place, that the ordinary *ashrafi* or *Pādishāhī* muhr of eleven *māshas* was equal to ten rupees (*Tūzuk*, Tr. II, 139). Hawkins (1611) says the same—A tola or twelve *māshas* of gold would at this rate, have fetched only about 11 rupees. If the figures are correctly given, the price of gold or the rupee value of the muhr must have risen considerably in the second quinquennium of Jahāngīr's reign. The matter may be left at that as it has been fully discussed in another article.

<sup>4</sup> The kings of Bijāpūr, Ahmadnagar and Gulkanda are never given the title of *Shāh* by the Mughal historians. They are respectively styled 'Ādil Khān, Nizāmu-l-mulk and Qutbu-l-mulk only. In the very first of the extracts from the *Tūzuk*, we were informed that the one-tola muhr was given this name, and now it is said that it weighed 500 *tulchas*

(horoscope star) muhrs the weight of each of which was 500 ordinary muhrs were given." [2 Āzar, XII R.Y.]<sup>1</sup>

*Ibid.*, I, 406; Text. 201, l. 15.

"Giving Muhammad Shaf'i leave to proceed to Multān, I presented him with a horse, and a *Nūr-shāhī* muhr, and sent by him a special turban (*chīra*) to Khān Jahān, my son (*farzand*)."<sup>2</sup> [4 Bahman, XV R.Y.]

*Ibid.*, II, 193; Text. 324, l. 4.

"I presented Zambīl Beg, the ambassador [of Shāh 'Abbās of Persia] with a *Nūr-jahānī* muhr of the weight of 100 tolas."<sup>3</sup> 28, Isfandārmaz, XV R.Y.]

*Ibid.*, II, 198; Text 326, l. 15.

"On this day [19 Farwardīn XVI R.Y.] I gave Zambīl Beg, a muhr equal to 200 tolas in weight."<sup>4</sup>

*Ibid.*, II, 201; Text, 328, l. 10.

"A present of a jewelled dagger, a muhr of 100 tolas, and 20,000 darbs was made to Udā Rām"<sup>5</sup> [6 Āzar XII R.Y.].

*Ibid.*, I, 408; Text, 202, l. 19.

<sup>1</sup> Jahāngīr informed us in the very first of these extracts from his Memoirs, that *Kaukab-i-tāl'i* was the name given by him to the 100 tola silver-piece. He then told us that he gave a gold-muhr of 1,000 tolas called *Kaukab-i-tāl'i* to the Persian ambassador. And now the name is given to the 500 muhr-piece! Mr. Beveridge attempts to get out of the difficulty by suggesting in a note (Errata and Addenda, p. 453) that "these muhrs were probably of silver and were called Muhrs because they were medals rather than coins." Apart from the fact that the word 'muhr' was in the parlance of the period, specifically applied only to a gold coin, there are other strong objections to this explanation. The author of the *Rādīshāh-nāma* bestows the same name on the ashrafi of 400 tolas (l. ii 89-90), while the compiler of the *Tārīkh-i-Muzaffarī* asserts that *Kaukab-i-tāl'i* was the designation of the muhr of 1,000 tolas. These discrepancies are puzzling. The authorities are certainly at variance as to the weight of the *Kaukab-i-tāl'i*, but there would appear to be an absolute consensus as to its having been of gold and not of silver. The true explanation is suggested in a note at the foot of this page.

<sup>2</sup> The sentence seems to be loosely worded. The horse, the muhr and the *chīra* all seem to have been presents sent to the Imperial favourite, Khān Jahān Lodī. Muhammad Shaf'i was in all probability, only the court messenger who carried the presents.

<sup>3</sup> In the Diary of the tenth year, we read that the *Nūr-jahānī* muhr was worth 6,400 rupees. In the immediately following citation, it was said to weigh 500 tulchas or tolas, and now we are told that its weight was only 100 tolas! It is clear that great confusion existed in the mind of the Emperor as to the arbitrary and fanciful names he had given to these pieces and that he was himself liable to mix up one with the other. There would be nothing surprising in subsequent historical writers having done the same, and it is also likely that the nomenclature itself was frequently altered in conformity with their own whims and caprices by the succeeding emperors.

<sup>4</sup> Mr. Beveridge notes that this is perhaps 'the muhr now in Germany.' This is an error. He is evidently referring to the 200 tola medal at Dresden, but that is in silver and bears the name of Aurangzeb, not of Jahāngīr (Thomas, *Chronicles*, 423 Note). The two-hundred tola muhr described by Richardson is of the 28th year of Shāh Jahān. There is a cast of it in the British Museum, but the original has disappeared.

<sup>5</sup> This man had been in the service of the Nizām Shāh of Ahmad-



"On this auspicious day [the 43rd Lunar anniversary of Shāh Jahān's birth, 8 Rab'ī II, 1041 A.H.], Muḥammad 'Alī Beg the Persian ambassador" received along with other presents, "four great *ashrafis*, one weighing 400 tolas, another 300 tolas, a third weighing 200 tolas, and a fourth weighing 100 tolas and four rupees also of the same weight and given permission to depart." *Bādishāh Nāma*, *Bibl. Ind. Text.* I. i. 443, l. 3.

"On the 22nd [Zī-l-qa'da, 1044 A.H. VIII R.Y.], the ambassador from Tūrān received, along with other presents, an *ashrafi* called *Kaukab-i-īālī* weighing 400 tolās, and a rupee of the same weight. Khwāja Yāqūt who had accompanied him and was in charge of the present of horses, camels and furs which had been sent by the king of Tūrān was given an *ashrafi* and a rupee each of which weighed 100 tolas."

*Ibid.*, I, ii, 89-90.

"On the 10th of Zī-l-hajja, 1044 VIII R.Y., Nazar Beg, Qūshbegī [chief huntsman] of the ruler of Turān received a muhr weighing thirty tolas."

*Ibid.*, I, ii, 101, l. 7.

"On the 14th [Safar, 1048 A.H. XI R.Y.], Yādgār Beg Elchī of Irān received as a present a muhr of 400 tolas and a rupee of the same weight."

*Ibid.*, II, 101, l. 4.

"Qāzī 'Umar Qūshbegī [chief huntsman, master of the hounds] of Nazar Muḥammad Khān [Ruler of Balkh] received on the day of leave-taking, along with other presents, one muhr weighing 30 tolas." [I Shawwāl, 1048 A.H. XII R.].

*Ibid.*, II, 134-5.

"On 30 Sha'abān, 1050 [XIV R.Y.], Arslān Āqā, ambassador from Rūm [Constantinople], received along with other presents one muhr of 100 tolas and one rupee of the same weight."<sup>2</sup>

*Bād. Nām.* II, 218, l. 12.

"On the festival held to celebrate Jahān Arā Begam's

nagar and deserting it, had joined the Mughal general Shāhnawāz Khān. "By the persuasions of 'Adil Khān and the deceit of 'Ambar, he left the right road," and "gave up loyalty and service" (*Tūzūk*, Trans. I, 398-9). But when Ādam Khān was "deceitfully imprisoned and put to death by Malik 'Ambar he, with Bābū Ray Kāyath, went over a second time to the Mughals and came to court. According to a Marāṭhī Bakkhar (quoted in Forrest, *Selections*, Marāṭhā Series. I, p. 9) he was a Brāhman by caste and Desai of Māhur.

<sup>1</sup> There is a long story about this man in Tavernier's *Persian Travels* (Eng. Trans. 1678 pp. 42-4). He is also mentioned in the *Indian Section* (Tr. Ball II, 7). Sir Thomas Herbert gives him a very bad character. *Travels*, Ed. 1665, pp. 221, 223, 225.

<sup>2</sup> This is also in Khāfī Khān, I. 581, l. 1. He says the ambassador received 15,000 rupees besides in cash. Von Hammer has given the Turkish historian Naima's account of this embassy in an article contributed to the *Transactions of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain* Vol.

recovery [5 Shawwāl, 1054 A.H. XVIII R.Y.], Ḥakīm Muḥammad Dāūd who had treated her was given one muhr of 500 tolas and one rupee of the same weight.<sup>1</sup>

*Bād. Nām.* II, 399, l. 3.

"On the Nauroz feast of the XIX year [3 Safar, 1055 A.H. Nazar Shawwāib [Elchī or envoy of Nazar Muḥammad Khān, the ruler of Balkh *q.v.* *Bād. Nām.* II, 479, l. 8 and *ib.*, 491, l. 18] was given two muhrs one of 200 tolas and another of 100 tolas."

*Bād. Nām.* II, 492, l. 7.

"On the 4th of Rajab 1071 A.H [IV R.Y.], Ibrāhīm Beg the envoy of Subḥān Qūlī Khān [Ruler of Tūrān or Balkh] was given an enamelled or jewelled staff an ashrafi weighing 200 tolas and a rupee of the same weight."

*Ālamgīrnāma*, 608, l. 15.

"On 3 Zī-l-ḥajja, 1071. IV R.Y., Būdāq Beg the Persian ambassador, received a present of three large ashrafi the aggregate weight of which was 700 tolas and three rupees weighing in all 500 tolas."<sup>2</sup>

*Ālam. Nām.* 627, l. 1.

"On the festival of Prince Muḥammad Mu'azzam's marriage to the daughter of Rāja Rūpsingh Rāthor. [13 Rab'ī II, 1072, A.H. IV R.Y.], Khwāja Aḥmad the Bukhārā envoy who was present by the Emperor's invitation was given one *ashrafi* weighing 300 tolas, another weighing 200 tolas and two rupees of like weight."

*Ālam. Nām.* 644, l. 8.

"On the 4th of Muḥarram, 1078 A.H. X R.Y., Khūshī Beg, the ambassador from Balkh received along with other presents one ashrafi of the weight of 100 muhrs [اشرفی صد مہری] and a rupee weighing 200 tolas."

*Ālam. Nām.* 1051, l. 7.

"On the fourteenth anniversary of Aurangzeb's accession [چشن جلوس], i.e. 1 Ramzān, 1081 A.H., Shaikh 'Usmān envoy (کویل) of the Sharīf of Makka received along with other presents one ashrafi weighing as much as 100 [ordinary] muhrs and a rupee weighing as much as 100 [ordinary] rupees."

II, 1830). This is very different from the Mughal version, as it is there asserted that Arslān was "dismissed without credentials or presents from Shāh Jahān" to the Sulṭān, and that "a bottle of attar of roses, two carpets, and two felts were the only presents entrusted to him by the Indian Wazīr, on his own part, to the Sublime Porte (*loc. cit.*, pp. 467-8).

<sup>1</sup> The fact is mentioned by Khāfi Khān also. (Text, I, 600, five lines from foot.) The passage in which Maṣṣūdī aims to have received from one of the Imperial ladies a like present for similar services has been already cited.

<sup>2</sup> This is in Khāfi Khān also (*Bibl. Ind. Text*, II, 127, l. 10). He says the present was made on the 'Idu d-ḡuḡa, i.e. the 10th, not the 3rd, of Zī-l-ḥajja, which seems more correct.

*Maāṣir-i-Ālamgīri*, 108, l. 8

"On 7 Rab'ī II, 1092 A.H. XXIV R.Y., Khān Mirzā, envoy of the ruler of Ūrganj [Khiva] received at his audience of leave, along with other presents, a muhr of the weight of 50 muhrs and, a rupee weighing as much as 100 ordinary rupees."

[ مهر پنجاه مہری و روپے صد روپیگی ]

*Maāṣ.* 'Ālam. 207, l. 2.

"One muhr of the weight of 1,000 muhrs was sent as a present to Shahābu-d-din Khān Bahādur, Firūz Jang<sup>1</sup> for the valuable services he had rendered by convoying grain to the army of Prince Muḥammad A'zam who was besieging Bijāpūr and routing Ped Nāik the Baidur chief of Saggar who had attacked him on the way" [Zī-l-q'ada, 1096 A.H. XXIX R.Y.]

*Maāṣ.* 'Ālam., 266, l. 4

"Quṭbu-d-dīn, the Bukhārā envoy received, along with other presents, one muhr of the weight of 200 muhrs and one rupee of the weight of 200 rupees on the day on which he had his first audience [روز ملازمت] of the Emperor.' [1109 A.H. XLII R.Y.]

*Ibid.*, 397, l. 9.

"Mir Abūl Baqā, Dārogha of the Jānimāz Khāna<sup>2</sup> received a present [انعام] of a muhr weighing 50 muhrs and the sum of 500 rupees for reading a letter written in cipher by Prince Muḥammad Mu'azzam." [1114 A.H. XLVI R.Y.]

*Maāṣ.* 'Ālam, 400, l. 6.

"Khawāja Zāhid, envoy of the ruler of Balkh, had been given on the day on which he had his first audience of the Emperor [روز ملازمت] one ashrafi of the weight of 100 muhrs [اشرفی صد مہری] and a rupee weighing as much as 100 [ordinary] rupees." [1115 A.H. XLVIII R.Y.]

*Maāṣ.* 'Ālam. 483, l. 5.

"Mukhtār Khān, father-in-law of Bedār Bakht, was *Ṣubadār* of Āgra. He had nine *krors* of rupees, besides *ashrafis* and *presentation money* (*rupiya-i-gharīb nawāz*), amounting to as much as five hundred tolas in weight; and he had uncoined gold and silver in the shape of vessels. Bāki Khān, the commander of the fortress, who had the treasure in his charge, designed to surrender the treasure and the keys of the fortress to whichever of the heirs of the kingdom should present himself" [1119 A.H.].

<sup>1</sup> The recipient was the father of the great Nizāmu-l-mulk Āsaf Jāh, the founder of the ruling house of Haidarābād (Dekkan).

<sup>2</sup> Jānimāz, place of prayer—prayer-carpet. The "Jānimāzkhāna" was, the Imperial oratory, or room in which the Emperor offered up in private his daily prayers.

Khāfi Khān, in Elliot and Dowson, VII, 389. For the original see *Muntakhabu-l-Lubāb*, Text, II, 568, 5 lines from foot. "Bāki Khān gavē up the keys of the fortress [of Āgra to Bahādur Shāh, Shāh Ālam I] with the treasure, for which he received great favour and rewards. According to one account, there were nine *krors* of rupees, in rupees and *ashrafi*s besides vessels of gold and silver, which was what was left remaining of the twenty-four *krors* of rupees amassed by Shāh Jahān, after what had been expended by Aurangzeb during his reign principally in his wars in the Dakhin. According to another account including the presentation money [سکه قریب نواز in text] which consisted of *ashrafi*s and rupees of 100 to 300<sup>1</sup> tolas' weight, *specially coined for presents* [مخصوص انعام] and the *ashrafi*s of twelve māshas and thirteen māshas of the reign of Akbar, the whole amounted to thirteen *krors*. (The Italics are mine.)

*Ibid.*, Elliot and Dowson, VII, 393-4; *Bibl. Ind.* Text, II, 578, l. 5.

"One *ashrafi* weighing 200 tolas and two rupees weighing four hundred tolas [in all] were presented to Mir Murtazā Khāfāf—the ambassador of Shāh Husain Ṣafavī of Persia in the first year of the reign of Farrukh-Siyar." 124 A.H.

Khāfi Khān, Text, II, 737, l. 6.

"The envoy of the Sharif of Makka who had brought as a present the جامعہ کعبہ and other rarities was given a Khil at, two thousand rupees and an *ashrafi* called *kaukab-i-ṭālī* of the weight of 1,000 tolas" in the 11th year of the reign of Muḥammad Shāh

*Tārīkh-i-Muẓaffarī* (Manuscript), p. 135, l. 10 from foot.

Here we have no less than thirty passages covering the entire period from the coronation of Jahāngīr to the XIth year of the reign of the puppet-Emperor, Muḥammad Shāh. It is a fact worthy of consideration that there is not in this lengthy catena of extracts from the Chronicles a word which countenances either the 'large-payments' theory of Thomas or the 'Nazarāna' conjecture of Cunningham. Instead of being, as Cunningham imagined, offerings made by a subject to his sovereign they clearly appear to have been ostentatious gifts bestowed by the Mughal Emperors upon ambassadors, envoys and visitors from foreign parts. It may be fairly supposed that this was done with a view to spread the fame of their wealth and magnificence in their original home, Central Asia.

<sup>1</sup> 'Three hundred' here is a misprint. The word in the original is پانصد, 500, and this is undoubtedly what Khāfi Khān himself wrote, and is said in the extract immediately preceding. (Ed. VII, 389.)

The phrase *Sikka-i-Qharīb nawāz* applied as a generic term to these pieces, is significant.

It had always been the practice to bestow not only presents of arms and armour, horses and jewels but of coined money or cash on diplomatic agents and distinguished visitors, from foreign parts. Clavijo informs us that at a reception in the court of Timūr, they "put hats on their [*scil.* the ambassadors'] heads, and gave them a bag containing one thousand five hundred bits of silver being money which they call Tangaes, each piece worth two silver rials." (Embassy, Tr. Markham, 165.) We have seen that Bābur's parting-gift to the envoys of Shāh Tahmāsp, and Kūchūm Khān Uzbek, etc., was a silver-stone's weight of gold (250 Miṣqāls) and a gold-stone's weight (500 Miṣqāls) of silver." Akbar was innovating in all matters and at all times. He was endowed in no small measure with the aesthetic sense, and he had a passionate desire to have all things about him arrayed in beautiful shapes and forms. It perhaps occurred to him that when a great and powerful sovereign wished to reciprocate the diplomatic courtesies of neighbouring princes, it would be a great improvement to substitute for the ugly and ponderous ingot of 250 or 500 Miṣqāls a beautiful medal—a work of art bearing the impress of the poetical genius of Faizī or the artistic talent of Maulānā Maqṣūd or Mullā Aḥmad, the most renowned calligraphers and engravers of the age.

These medals also served another purpose. They were 'stores of value.' The revenue of the Mughal empire was in its more prosperous days, in excess of the expenditure and the balance was hoarded in all the different forms of wealth which carry the greatest value in the smallest bulk, precious stones, gold and silver plate, specie and bullion. Such hoarding is now looked upon as foolish and uneconomical but it should not be forgotten that the lending of money at interest is denounced and strictly prohibited in the Qur'ān. There were no banks and no facilities for the investment of superfluous wealth in great industrial concerns. If the state required large sums for an emergency there was no agency capable of finding them. The Mughal Emperors had therefore like their European contemporaries, to keep large cash reserves for military and other exigencies. The deliberate accumulation of enormous war-chests by Germany and other great European powers before the War shows that even under modern conditions, the advantages of having such gold-reserves are not inconsiderable.

I have said that so far as this lengthy chain of citations is concerned, it is not possible to find a word which can be adduced in support of the Naḡrāna medal theory. It is therefore all the more incumbent upon me to give prominence to a solitary passage in which the note of dissent appears to be struck.

It occurs in the *Takmilā-i-Akbarnāma* (supplement or continuation of Abūl Faẓl's 'Akbarnāma') which is generally

ascribed to a writer of the name of ‘Ināyat Khān. It forms part of his account of the submission or surrender of the Prince Salīm after his rebellion. We read :—

“On Thursday 4th Āzar māh i llāhī, R.Y. 49, he [*scil.* Salīm] adorned his forehead with the prostration of loyalty and placed his head on the feet of his earthly (*lit.* figurative) divinity and true Qibla [*i.e.* his father]. The loving Emperor graciously drew that nursling of fortune into the embrace of affection. The prince offered as a present [اندر گزینید] or diamond valued at one lac of rupees, 200 one hundred tola muhrs, 200 fifty tola muhrs, 4 twenty-five tola muhrs, and 3 twenty tola muhrs. He also presented 200 elephants.”

*Bibl. Ind.*, Edit. III. 832, eight lines from foot.

This passage undoubtedly demands attention, but after taking all the surrounding circumstances into consideration, it seems to me that an isolated statement of this sort, emanating from a writer of whom nothing whatever is known except the name, cannot invalidate the unanimous testimony of historians of acknowledged authority.

The circumstances under which this present came to be made have also to be carefully considered. It is well known to all those who have given close attention to the subject that our sources of information for the history of the last four years of Akbar's reign are exceedingly meagre and inadequate. Nizāmu-d-din Aḥmad deserts us at the end of the 38th year, Badāonī at that of the 40th, Abūl Faḥl's invaluable work does not go beyond the 46th and the *Akbarnāma* of Faḥlī Sirhindī which has not been published stops short at the same point of time.

All the indigenous authors who belonged to the immediately succeeding generation, appear from prudent considerations to have glozed or altogether slurred over the undutiful conduct of the son who, by a fortunate concurrence of events at last triumphed and established his right to the throne. If they say any thing about the matter, the details are confused and inadequate for a true understanding of the situation. Not one of them, for instance, allows a word to escape about Salīm having had the insolence to strike money in his own name and having thus touched the high-water-mark of treason and rebellion. On the other hand, all the contemporary or contemporaneous European writers aver that he did so. Sir Thomas Herbert in a disquisition on the history of the Mughal dynasty which is really a translation or paraphrase of the corresponding portion of De Laët's ‘*De Imperio Magni Mogolis*’ writes :—

“Echar \* \* \* returns him [*Scil.* Salīm] a sharp answer, such as incensed the Prince who \* \* \* forthwith dislodged, and in good order marched speedily to *Elabasse*

where he commands all sorts of coin, Gold, Silver and Brass to be stamped with his own Name and Motto." (Travels, Ed. 1665, p. 74.)

Now although a meticulous study of the historical exertations of the European travellers of the 17th century has left upon my own mind an impression that they are of very small value for a critical knowledge of the subject it is not impossible that they may, for once be right and that Salim may have arrogated to himself the sovereign right of stamping money. In that case, he was probably unable to resist the temptation of striking some of these 'showy' pieces, if only to give a further proof of his truculence and determination to go to all lengths.

If so, we can easily understand why the Emperor insisted on all such pieces being surrendered and made the surrender one of the conditions precedent to the grant of pardon. That condition would be best fulfilled and the prince's face also saved by his presenting the medals as 'Nazar' along with 200 of his most formidable elephants.

But this is only on hypothetical explanation and it rests on the *assumption* that the passage is genuine. But this assumption itself is by no means free from challenge.

I have said that little or nothing is known of the author of the work in which the passage is found. Dowson says that it is "almost unknown in England, for it is not to be found in the Libraries of the British Museum, the East India Office or the Royal Asiatic Society." (E.D. VI, 103.) Sir Henry Elliot did not possess a copy, but "a translation of the whole work is given at the end of the MS translation of the *Akbarnāma* [of Abūl Fazl] belonging to the Royal Asiatic Society," (*ibid.*) which was made by Lieut. Chalmers. Now the corresponding passage in Chalmers' version has been cited by Count Von Noer (The Emperor Akbar, Tr. A. S. Beveridge, II, 415) where we read that "on the 4th of Āzar, Salim arrived at the presence and presented a *diamond worth a lakh of rupīs and 200 muhrs as an offering and 400 elephants as a tribute.*" Mr. Vincent Smith also who had access to Chalmers' translation has an identical statement (*l.c.*, p. 318). Now there is not a word here about the hundred-tola, fifty-tola, twenty-five-tola or twenty-tola muhrs having constituted part of the *Nazar*, though we have the diamond "valued at one lac of rupees" and also elephants (albeit the number is not the same). It is clear then that the passage must have been very differently worded in Chalmers' manuscript of the work and the authenticity of the statement in the *Bibliotheca Indica* Text is thus laid open to grave suspicion.

The upshot of the matter is that this supposed negative instance is not of any compelling force and cannot invalidate the conclusion, founded on the evidence of the cloud of

contemporary witnesses who declare that these medals were merely presentation pieces which were given as a special mark of Imperial favour to ambassadors, etc.

It is of course possible to argue that the Emperors might have, for all that, received the medals in the first instance as nazars and afterwards bestowed them as presents to diplomatic agents and other visitors from foreign parts. I have therefore thought it necessary to note all the passages in my authorities in which the nazars of Princes and *Amirs* are mentioned, but it would be hardly worth while to cite them *in extenso* or even give references to them all. It will suffice here to say that there is not a word in any of these notices which indicates that nobles who had to present 100 or 200 muhrs as nazar made the offering in the form of a single piece or muhr of that weight. This is not an argument from mere silence which is of no import. In the circumstances, the silence is both extraordinary and significant.

A similar mode of reasoning—negative in character, but, for that matter, not devoid of force—will go far to shake, if not entirely explode the unexamined conjecture of "our master" Thomas. I have, in the course of these researches, carefully studied all the records of European Travel in the 17th and 18th centuries,—Diaries, Journals, Voyages, Letters, etc.—which I could procure for love or money in this country. I have also read from cover to cover the entire body of the correspondence of the English East India Company from 1603 to 1659, for the publication of which we are indebted to the indefatigable zeal and industry of Mr. William Foster and his coadjutors. I can assure my readers that in neither of these voluminous sources of information which must fill at least 20,000 pages in print, have I found a single direct statement or allusion showing that gold and silver pieces of great size passed from hand to hand in the Indian bazars and served as substitutes of our ten-pound or hundred-pound notes. Several hundreds, if not thousands, of sales and purchases in which large sums were involved are recorded in detail by these writers, among whom are to be reckoned, physicians, clergymen, jewellers, merchants, factors and adventurers of all sorts. But I have not discovered any of them saying at any time that coins of higher value than the ordinary rupee and gold muhr were ever employed in any exchange transaction or in the course of commercial dealing. Briefly, there is not a word to indicate that any of these persons had ever seen or handled a five muhr, ten-muhr or thousand-rupee piece, or even heard that any metallic coins served the same purpose as our currency or Bank of England notes and that a heavy debt had been paid off by a Hindu or Muhammadan merchant by the transfer to the creditor of one or two of these prodigious discs of *stamped* metal.



Thomas's last argument turns out on examination to be equally feeble and untenable. It is founded on the supposition that the heavy seigniorage of about 5½ per cent must have led to the abundant if not profuse utterance of these ponderous pieces, and that their extensive circulation in the Indian bazars must have been the inevitable result of the Emperors' inability to resist the temptation to make a large profit by the operation. This *a priori reasoning* is unfortunately knocked on the head by the 'inside knowledge' of Abūl Fazl who explicitly declares that the only gold coins ordinarily struck were the *La'l-i-Jalālī* Muhr, its half (*Dhan*) and quarter (*Man*) and that the other varieties enumerated were 'never stamped without special orders.' In other words, their possession would appear to have been an imperial privilege or prerogative and they never circulated in bazars at all, because no private individual could get them coined at the mint.

The sum and substance of the matter is that these phenomenal issues were neither metallic substitutes or counterparts of our Bank or Currency notes of high denominations, nor 'Nazrāna medals.' They were merely massive ingots of artistically stamped bullion which were hoarded as stores of value and were occasionally given away to ambassadors, diplomatic agents and other distinguished persons as complimentary gifts or *souvenirs* of the Imperial favour and munificence.

## V. THE COIN-LEGEND 'ALLĀHU AKBAR.'

The deliberate choice of the punning motto 'Allāhu Akbar,' and the peculiar manner in which the words of the legend are arranged on some half dozen silver coins of the Great Emperor have led Rodgers and other numismatists of repute positively to assert or indirectly to suggest that Akbar 'laid claim to Divinity. The establishment of a New Religion, the public assumption of the title *Khalīfat Allah*, and the institution of a mode of salutation bearing some resemblance to the *Sijda* which in the eyes of Muslims it is blasphemy for a mortal to arrogate, has, no doubt, lent colour to the charge and exerted some influence on its formulation.<sup>1</sup>

It is not perhaps generally known that the ambiguous signification of the phrase itself is not a modern discovery. Badaoni has left it on record that it was once the subject of some heated discussion in the Emperor's own presence.

"In these days [983 A.H. XXI R.Y.] his Majesty once asked how people would like it, if he ordered the words *Allāh Akbar* to be cut on the Imperial Seal and the dies of his coins. Most said that the people would like it very much, but Hāfi Ibrāhīm objected, and said that the phrase had an ambiguous meaning, and that the Emperor might substitute the verse of the Qurān *Lazikrullahi Akbaru*, because it involved no ambiguity. But the Emperor was much displeased [ازو نه پسندیدند] and said it was surely sufficient, that no man who felt his weakness would claim Divinity, he merely looked to the sound of the words, and he had never thought that a thing could be carried to such an extreme."

*Muntakhabu-t-Tawarikh*, Trans. Lowe, II, 213; Text, II, 210. See also Elliot and Dowson, V, 523.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> It may not be generally known, but it is true that Jahāngīr, Shāh Jahān, the orthodox Aurangzeb and other emperors all regarded themselves as 'Khalifs of Allah' and are so styled by the historians. *Iqbāl-nāma*, 2, 303; 'Amal; Salib, 12, l. 8; 'Ālamgīrnāma, 11, ll. 8, 20. The honorific epithets of their Capitals *Dāru-l-khilāfat* and *Mustagīrru-l-khilāfat* are founded on this pretension, and yet no one has accused any of them of laying claim to Divinity.

It may be also pointed out that the *Kurnish* or peculiar mode of salutation instituted by Akbar in imitation of the Court-etiquette of the Sassanian Emperors differed in many respects from the Islamic *Sijda*, though Badaoni and some other Musalman writers use the terms interchangeably and represent them as identical. See the description of *Kurnish* and *Sijda* in Herklot's *Kanoon-e Esalam*—pp ci and cv.

<sup>2</sup> Dowson's version of the latter and more important part of the

This indignant repudiation of the charge is deserving of notice, and the correctness of Badāoni's report of the dialogue is proved by the occurrence of a very similar statement in the *Akbarnāma* of his successful rival and *bête noire*, Abūl Fazl.

"One set of those base ones," he writes, "charged that Unique of God's servants, who is the glory of his race, with claiming the Godhead \* \* \* When the fact of the foolish talk of the wicked came to H.M.'s hearing, he, from his wide capacity and contemplation of the wonders of Creation, did not believe it and said 'Good God, how could it enter into the narrow thoughts of the ignorant that recent Creatures belonging to a dependent existence should ascribe to themselves a share in Divinity? \* \* \* How could such a notion come into my mind? Why does such an evil thought bewilder the superficial and the worshippers of externals?'" (*Op. cit.*, Trans. H. Beveridge, III, 397-8; Bibl Ind. Text, III, 271-2.) There is such a striking resemblance between the expressions put by the cantankerous champion of Islamic intolerance and the magniloquent protagonist of Free thought into the mouth of Akbar, that it is impossible to entertain any doubt as to their having been really uttered by that personage. It is, of course, possible to say that these professions of humility and confessions of man's weakness were insincere and hypocritical devices for deceiving the ignorant and disguising from the commonalty the real intent of a deep laid plot or project. It is hardly necessary to point out that such charges of hypocrisy and suppositions of subtle intent are incapable of proof and are, at the most, matters of individual opinion. With such suppositions, the unbiassed student of the original authorities has no concern, and he is under no obligation to enter into a categorical refutation of them.

Now, an examination of these original or primary sources—indigenous and foreign—of the history of the Akbari period shows that there is nothing in them which can be adduced as evidence in support of Rodgers' contention. On the contrary there is not a little which militates with some force against it.

It is common knowledge that Akbar gradually came to

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passage is perhaps better and deserves citation. "His Majesty was not pleased with this and said it was self-evident that no creature, in the depths of his importance, could advance any claim to Divinity. He had only looked upon the word as being apposite, and there could be no sense in straining it to such an extent."

The corresponding words in the original are:—

ازو نه پسندیدند فرمودند که این خود معین است که از بندگی با کمال  
معجز دءوی خدای چه طور درست می آید و مقصود ما مناسبت لفظی  
است این مدعا را بان جانب بودن چه معنی داشت \*

reject most of the peculiar doctrines and ceremonies of Islām and attempted to found a new sect or religion. But he never had a word to say against its Monotheism and his new creed was called the *Tauhid-i-Ilāhī Akbarshāhī* "Akbar Shāh's Doctrine (or Creed) of the Unity of the Divine (or Supreme Being, الله)". Gibbon has somewhere said that the Muhammadan doxology is "compounded of an Eternal Truth and a necessary fiction." The 'Eternal Truth,' Akbar seems to have held fast and firmly throughout his life, and it was also retained in the new formula of his own Eclectic Faith. That Faith may be best described as a sort of Rationalistic Deism of which the distinguishing feature was a denial of the Revelation or infallibility of any of the creeds then existing.

Akbar had never received a systematic education,<sup>1</sup> though he had from early youth associated with or been thrown into the company of men of learning and culture. He consequently appears to have passed through many phases of religious belief, but there is nothing to show that his faith in the existence of a Supreme Being was ever shaken. He was a convinced Theist, or rather, Theism was to him an axiom which stood in no need of proof. He would have scornfully rejected, if not vindictively persecuted the Atheism and even the Agnosticism of our day, simply because he would have been unable to understand the logical basis of either.

Akbar was illiterate or practically so and he has left no writings or Defence of his religious opinions behind him. But fragments of his 'Table-talk' have been preserved in the encyclopaedic work of Abūl Fazl and occupy about twenty pages in Jarrett's translation (*Āīn*, Tr. III, 380-400). No one can read these 'Happy sayings of his Majesty' without having it forcibly borne in upon him that the subjects which were constantly in the Great Emperor's thoughts were the Being and Attributes of God Man's relation to Him and the account he himself would have to give Him of his trusteeship. I beg permission to cite a few of the sayings as the arrogation of Divinity in his own person by their author is to me unthinkable.

"There exists a bond between the Creator and the Creature which is not expressible in language." Jarrett, *Āīn*, Trans. III, 380.

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<sup>1</sup> Jahāngir says of his father that he was <sup>نور</sup> (Tūzuk Text, 14, l. 12, Trans. I, 33) of which the dictionary meaning is "Not knowing how to read or write, uneducated, illiterate" (Steingass, s.v.). The Jesuit Monserrate also assures us that he could neither read nor write. (Hosten in *J.A.S.B.* 1912, p. 194) and Jerome Xavier repeats the statement in a long letter addressed to the General of his Order from Lāhor in 1598, (Maclagan in *J.A.S.B.* 1896, p. 77).

"Each person according to his condition gives the Supreme Being a name, but in reality to know the Unknowable is vain." *Ibid.*, 381.

"There is no need to discuss the point that a vacuum in nature is impossible, God is Omnipresent." *Ibid.*, 381.

"Although I am the master of so vast a kingdom, \* \* \* yet since true greatness consists in doing the will of God, my mind is not at ease in this diversity of sects and creeds." *Ibid.*, 386.

"On the day when the Almighty wills that my life should cease, I also would not further prolong it." *Ibid.*, 387

"My constant prayer to the Supreme Giver is that when my thoughts and actions no longer please Him, he may take my life, in order that I may not every moment add to his displeasure." *Ibid.*, 387.

There is every reason to believe that these sayings are genuine expressions of the Emperor's opinions which were recorded by the *Wāq'a navīs* or keepers of the Court Register, and it is impossible not to give due weight to them or to overlook the fact of their receiving strong corroboration not only from his son Jahāngir, but from his habitual detractor, 'Abdul-Qādir Badāoni.

In the word-picture of his father which Jahāngir has drawn in his *Tūzūk* and which, in Mr. Beveridge's opinion, is "a bigger plum than anything in Bābar's Memoirs," he says: "Notwithstanding his kingship and his treasures and his buried wealth, \* \* \* his fighting elephants and Arab horses, he never by a hair's breadth placed his foot beyond the base of humility before the throne of God, but considered himself the lowest of created beings, and never for one moment forgot God." (*Tūzūk-i-Jahāngīrī*, Trans. Rogers and Beveridge, I, 37; Sayyad Ahmad Khān's Edition, p. 16, l. 18.)

"His Majesty," Badāoni informs us, "spent whole nights in praising God \* \* \* His heart was full of reverence for Him, who is the true Giver and from a feeling of thankfulness for his past successes he would sit many a morning alone in prayer and meditation \* \* \* with his head bent over his chest, gathering the bliss of the early hours of dawn." [983 A.H. XX. R.] (Lowe's Trans. II, 203. Bibl. Ind. Text, II, 200, l. 14. See also Blochmann, *Āin*, Trans. I, 170.)

How can one conceive of such a man saying **ان الحق** like Mansūr? It should be here observed that Badāoni

<sup>1</sup> Mansūr-i-Hallāj (the carder) was a Sūfī who was sentenced to death by the Khalīf Al-Muqtadir because he used to proclaim *An-ul-Haq, i.e. I am the Truth, or in other words, 'I am God'* in A.H. 306 (919 A.C.) of 309 (922 A.C.). Bealé, Biographical Dictionary, Ed. Keene, p. 243.

Mr. Vincent Smith says that "Akbar was by nature a mystic, who

himself does not anywhere state that Akbar laid pretensions to Divinity. The gravamen of his accusations, the point he continually harps upon is that the Emperor attempted to establish a new Faith contrary to, and on the ruins of Islām, that he pretended to be the *prophet of a New Age*, and that some unprincipled courtiers spoke of him as the *Ṣāhib-i-Zamān*, i.e. the Mahdī. Badāoni's animadversions on Akbar's Religious Opinions are, as may be seen from Blochmann's Note on the subject, (*Āīn*, Trans. I, 167-209), scattered over more than two hundred pages, and are full of digressions and discursive remarks of all sorts, but the sum and substance of the new or heterodox opinions on account of which he fulminates against Akbar is contained in the following extracts :—

"But he [Mullā Muḥammad of Yazd] was soon left behind by Bir Bar—that bastard!—and by Shaikh Abūl Faḥl, and Hakīm Abul-Faḥl, who successfully turned the Emperor from the Islām, and led him to reject inspiration, prophetship, the miracles of the prophets and of the saints, and even the whole law, so that I could no longer bear their company."

(Lowe's Trans. II, 214; Blochmann, *loc. cit.*, I, 175.)

"Soon after, the observance of the five prayers, and the fasts and the belief in everything connected with the prophet, were put down as vain superstitions, and man's reason was acknowledged as the only basis of religion."

(Lowe, 215; Blochmann, 175-6.)

"And persons of novel and whimsical opinions, in accordance with their pernicious ideas and vain doubts, coming out of ambush, decked the false in the garb of the true, and wrong in the dress of right, and cast the Emperor, who was possessed of an excellent disposition, and was an earnest searcher after truth, but very ignorant and a mere tyro, and used to the company of infidels and base persons, into perplexity, till doubt was heaped upon doubt, and he lost all definite aim, and the straight wall of the clear Law, and of firm Religion was broken down, so that after five or six years not a trace of Islām was left in him : and everything was turned topsy-turvy."

sought earnestly like his Sufi friends, to attain the ineffable bliss of direct contact with the Divine Reality, and now and again believed or fancied that he had succeeded." (Akbar, 160). This is a mere opinion, and the assertion made in the last part of the sentence is without warrant. Akbar's own opinion of these Sufistic absurdities is expressed in his saying about Maṣṣūr. "One moral may be drawn," he declared, "from the instances of the ruler of Egypt (Pharaoh) and Husayn Maṣṣūr (Ḥallāj), namely, that presumptuous regard of oneself [خود بینی] and regard of God [خدا نگری] are essentially distinguished" [از هم جدا] Jarrett, III, 394; Text, II, 240, l. 15).

Briefly, Akbar was of opinion that Maṣṣūr was a self-conceited fool and nothing more.

(Lowe, 262-3; Blochmann, 178.)

"Thus a faith of a materialistic character became painted on the mirror of his mind and \* \* \* this conviction took form that there are wise men to be found and ready to hand in all religions, and men of asceticism, and recipients of revelation and workers of miracles among all nations, and that Truth is an inhabitant of every place; and that consequently how could it be right to consider it as confined to one religion or creed, and that, one which had only recently made its appearance and had not as yet endured a thousand years!"

(Lowe, 263-4; Blochmann, 179.)

"And the Resurrection and the Judgment, and other details and traditions of which the Prophet was the repository he [Akbar] laid all aside."

(Lowe, 264; Blochmann, 180.)

"His Majesty had now determined publicly to use the formula, 'There is no God but God, and Akbar is God's representative.' But as this led to commotions, he thought better of it, and restricted the use of the formula to a few people in the Harem."

(Lowe 281; Blochmann, 188.)

"In this year, low and mean fellows, who pretended to be learned, but were in reality fools, collected evidence that His Majesty was the Çāhib-i-Zamān who would remove all differences of opinion among the seventy-two sects of Islām and the Hindus."

(Lowe, 295; Blochmann, 190.)

"All this made the Emperor the more inclined to claim the dignity of a prophet, perhaps I should say, the dignity of something else" [i.e. of God. Footnote] (Lowe, 295; Blochmann, 190.)

This is a difficult but important passage, and as Badāoni has been made by his translator to insinuate or indirectly suggest that Akbar did lay claim to something higher than Prophetship, I give below his own words which, in my humble opinion, have been paraphrased loosely and not at all correctly understood. What he says is

واین همه باعث دعوی نبوت شد اماند بلفظ نبوت بلکه بعبارت آخر \*

(Bibl. Ind. Text, II, 278, l. 15.)

I submit that the following would be a more literal and also more faithful rendering of the sentence :—

"All this was the cause of laying claim to the dignity of Prophetship [نبوت], though the word [لفظ] Prophetship [نبوت] was not used; but that was the purport [عبارت style, context, construction] in the end [آخر]."

I understand the writer to mean not that Akbar claimed to be God, but that he wished to be regarded as a Prophet, without at the same time calling or styling himself Prophet or *Nabī*. According to Muhammadan writers, *Nabī* is "one who has received direct inspiration (*wahy*) by means of an angel, or by the inspiration of the heart (*ilhām*) or has seen the things of God in a dream. *Vide Kitāb-i-T'arīfāt*." "(Hughes, Dictionary of Islam, s.v.)

I understand Badāonī's expressions to signify that though Akbar did not for fear of wounding Musalmān susceptibilities or some other reason, openly assume the title *Nabī*, and did not also use the word *Nubuwwat* in connection with his 'New Dispensation,' he *practically* did so, by arrogating to himself the right to "annul the statutes and ordinances of Islām and establish his own cherished pernicious belief in their stead" (Lowe, 310; Blochmann, 191).

Briefly what Badāonī says is that though the Emperor did not permit the words [ *نَبِيّ* ] *Nabī* or *Nubuwwat* to be used in connection with himself or his 'mission,' it was only an attempt to camouflage his pretensions, which were, to all intents and purposes, such as a Prophet or *Nabī* alone is properly entitled to put forward.<sup>1</sup>

This is all that he asserts and he does not, even in his most violent and vitriolic passages, forget himself so far as to make the more serious imputation against the Emperor. His complaint is not that Akbar claimed to be God, but that he pretended to be a Prophet (*Nabī*). He pours out the vials of his wrath on Abūl Fazl and others, not because they or any one else called Akbar *Allāh*, but because their seductions and flatteries ended in his styling himself *Khālīfat Allāh* (God's *Khālīf* or Vicegerent). His grievance is not that Akbar desired to be adored like the *Creator* or demanded divine honours from his subjects, but that he himself worshipped *created* things like

<sup>1</sup> It is fairly well known that Akbar's foster-brother, 'Azīz Koka, entitled *Khān-i-A'zam* was violently opposed to the religious innovations and incurred the Emperor's resentment in consequence. (Badāonī, Trans. Lowe, II, 400) *Khāfi Khān* gives extracts from a letter addressed to him by Akbar on the subject and his acrimonious and disrespectful reply in which he had accused his friend and master of "claiming to be a prophet" [ *مَنهم بدعوى نبوت نموده* ] and asked him what scriptures [ *کلام الله* ] had been revealed to him, what miracles he had performed, and "what former ruler had ever pretended to prophetship." [ *کدام پادشاه بدعوى نبوت نموده* ] (Text, I, 202, ll. 7-12). It will be noticed that there is not a word in this satirical admonition about the other allegation; which is, I repeat, absolutely unknown, to and has never, to my knowledge, been made by any Musalmān author of repute against Akbar.



the Sun and Fire, that he repeated daily the one thousand and one Sanskrit names of the sun and went through the mummery of holding his ears and turning himself quickly round about while doing so. (Lowe, II, 332; Blochmann, I 200.)

If we turn from the zealous Sunnī to the European missionaries who have so much to say about Akbar and whose testimony is, within certain limits of considerable value, we do not find any of them accusing Akbar of what Mussalmān writers call the 'Sin of Pharaoh.' A few quotations will perhaps suffice. The Jesuit Bartoli, for instance, whose account of the formal promulgation of Akbar's new religion is 'highly commended' by Mr. Vincent Smith writes that after his return from Kābul and defeat of his rebellious brother, Muḥammad Hakīm, the Emperor "began to bring openly into operation the plan which he had long secretly cherished in his mind. That was to make himself the founder and head of a new religion, compounded out of various elements taken partly from the Korān of Muhammad, partly from the scriptures of the Brahmans, and to a certain extent, as far as suited his purpose, from the Gospel of Christ." (Quoted in Smith, Akbar, 211.)

Jerome Xavier writing from Lahore on 20th August, 1595 A.C. says:—

"He [The Emperor] has utterly cast out Muhammad \* \* \* and leans towards the superstition of the Heathen, worshipping God and the Sun. He proclaims himself to be a prophet and declares that he does miracles." Quoted by [Sir] E. D. MacLagan, Jesuit Missions to the Emperor Akbar, J.A.S.B., 1896, p. 67; see also Smith, 262. Pinheiro, writing a week later, says:—

"The Emperor has entirely overturned \* \* \* the Muhammadan heresy and does not recognise it as a true faith \* \* \* The Emperor is the founder of a new sect and wishes to obtain the name of a *prophet*. He has already some followers, but only by bribing \* \* He worships God and the Sun. He is a Heathen" *Ibid.*, p. 70; Smith, *loc. cit.*, 262.

Lastly, we come across in a Report made by the Provincial of the Jesuits on 20th December, 1607, the following statement:—

"When the Emperor was in his last agonies, the Muhammadans bade him think on Muhammad whereon he gave no sign save that he repeated often the name of God." (MacLagan *loc. cit.*, 107.)

Another well-informed contemporary witness delivers himself thus:—

"Ecbar-shah himself continued a Mahometan, yet he began to make a breach into the law; considering that Mahomett was but a man, a king as he was, and therefore

reverenced, he thought he might prove as good a *Prophet* himself." Embassy of Sir Thomas Roe, Ed. W. Foster, Hakluyt Society, Edit. p. 313.

This is the sum and substance of what I have been able to glean from the contemporary authorities on the subject. Their positive assertions and direct statements deserve the most serious consideration. Their silence or negative evidence is also significant and must have its due weight. There appears to be a consensus that Akbar did pretend to be the founder of a new religion or prophet, but at the same time we do not hear a word about his having arrogated to himself the title of God or Allāh.<sup>1</sup> There may be two opinions as to the trustworthiness of this or that part of the evidence, and it may or may not be thought sufficient for absolute acquittal, but it would be impossible for any unprejudiced judge to deny that the indictment was not at all substantiated and that there was no positive evidence to support it.

It is possible that these historical considerations will not appeal strongly to Numismatists, and they will probably be still inclined to think that the abnormal arrangement of the word اکبر on the coins under discussion could not have been adopted without an object and that it must have concealed some insidious design or project. It may be therefore pertinent to remark that the number of such coins is not at all considerable. They are all fractional pieces of small value and it is a question if it would not be more proper to regard them as 'freak pieces' which were promptly suppressed than as

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<sup>1</sup> Musalmān monarchs are habitually called 'Shadows of God,' and honorary titles like **ظَلُّ حَقِّ** **عَلَّيْهِ اللهُ فِي الْعَالَمِ** **ظَلُّ اللهِ** are found inscribed on their coins. (Codrington, Manual, p. 64) Akbar never said that he was Allah but only his Agent or Deputy (**خَلِيفَةُ اللهِ**) and the same person cannot be both agent and master any more than the shadow can style itself the substance. Akbar claimed that he was not only Emperor but also 'Supreme Head of the Church' and this is the position taken up in the famous Manifesto which he got the Ulemā to sign in 987 A.H. "we are agreed that the rank of *Sultān-i-ʿAdil* (a just ruler) is higher in the eyes of God, than the rank of a *Mujtahid*. Further, we declare that \* \* \* Akbar Pādishāh-i-*Ghāzī* \* \* \* is a most just, a most wise, and a most God-fearing king. Should therefore, in future, a religious question come up, regarding which the opinions of the *Mujtahids* are at variance, and His Majesty \* \* be inclined to adopt \* \* \* any of the conflicting opinions which exist on that point and issue a decree to that effect, we do hereby agree that such a decree shall be binding on us and on the whole nation. Further, we declare that should His Majesty think fit to issue a new order, we and the nation shall likewise be bound by it provided always that such an order be not only in accordance with some verse of the *Qorān*, but also of real benefit to the community. (Blochmann, *Ain*, Tr. I, 186-7, Lowe, *Badāʾunī*, Tr. II, 279.) Surely this is very different from advancing claims to Divinity.

standard issues which remained in circulation anywhere for an appreciably long period. The arbitrary, fanciful and sometimes senseless arrangement of the words composing the legends is so very common in Mughal coins that it would be exceedingly hazardous to build anything upon it.<sup>1</sup> At any rate, there can be no justification for basing on such frail foundations an accusation of blasphemy and stupidity against such a ruler as Akbar.

The deservedly high authority and position of Mr. Lane Poole in the Numismatic world demands a discussion of the opinion he holds in regard to this subject. After pointing out the equivocal involved in the phrase he delivers himself of this guarded pronouncement: "The suggestion has been made, that the Emperor played upon the double meaning. If he did so, the levity was wholly out of keeping with his character and conduct in all other respects." (B.M.C. *Introd.* lxxviii.) I am afraid that it would not be easy to get many learned and unbiassed Muslims to see eye to eye with the Trinity College Professor of Arabic in this matter. There is frequently in questions of good taste or bad, an irreconcilable divergence between the European angle of vision and the Oriental. Any pun or play upon words in connection with sacred or scriptural matters or 'holy things' is to the devout European a damning proof of 'levity' and irreverence. He is bidden never to 'take the name of the Lord in vain.' The pious Muslim has it always in his mouth, and takes merit to himself for repeating it at all times and seasons. Invocations, ejaculations, exclamations and imprecations in which the name of 'Allāh' occurs are constantly on his lips. *Inshāllah*, *Bārakallah*, *Barakatallah* *Bismillah*, *Mashāllah*, *Istaghāfarallah*, *Aḥsanallah*, *Subhānallah*, *Alḥamdu-lillah* are common instances. In his eyes, they are useful reminders to sinful mortals ever prone to forget Him—of His Goodness and Omnipresence and Power and Glory. The name of the Supreme Being or one of its hundred and one synonyms, is thus displayed by them everywhere, on the doors of their houses, the walls of their mosques, the façades of their mausoleums the intaglios of their rings, and the headings of their books and letters. No ingenuity is spared to devise novel or unconven-

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<sup>1</sup> Nothing perhaps is so calculated to pervert the judgment as a favourite theory. Rodgers was not content with asserting that Akbar pretended to be God. He was almost sure that the feeble minded and uxorious toper Jahāngīr was guilty of the same folly. Commenting on the second couplet on the 'Portrait coin' struck at Ajmer in the 9th year of the Julūs, he writes: "There is, I suspect, more than one sees on the surface here; a sly attempt to make himself equal with God, seeing the letters of the name of the King and of God were of the same numerical value"! Such theories need no refutation. They are founded on an unfortunate preconception and stand self-condemned.

tional forms of expression and bring in the name or attributes of the Creator of the universe therein. The more ingenious, (that is, in many cases the more far fetched and obscure) the conceit, quibble or paronomasia, the better. 'Allusive invocations' connecting the personal designation of an individual with one or other of the oft-repeated forms of the 'Holy Name' are, therefore, exceedingly common on their seals, their finger-rings and their monetary issues. Mr. R. S. Poole has pointed out that they are a marked characteristic of the later Persian coinage. Karīm Khān Zand, publicly affected the invocation *یا کریم* merely because *کریم* is one of the appellations of the Deity (*q.v.* Codrington, Manual, p. 41). The *سجع* or seal of this ruler bore the motto *یا من هو یمن رجلا کریم* and one of his gold coins has "above the reverse inscription *هو* [Ho], and in the midst of the obverse inscription, dividing the distich, *کریم*." The coins of Muḥammad Shāh bear the inscription *شاهنشاه انبیا محمد* [Sovereign of the Prophets, Muḥammad] "which may be regarded as an allusive motto," and the phrase *هو الناصر* [He is the Helper] occurs on the medals struck by *Nāsiru-d-dīn* Shāh in our own days, to celebrate the thirtieth year of his reign and the centenary of the Qājār dynasty. (Coins of the Shāhs of Persia, Introd. lxxxix-c). No Persian would see any 'levity' much less blasphemy in this although the phrase itself refers to the True 'Helper' *ناصر* of all creatures. He would at once see that the choice of the phrase and the prominence given to it was due to its assonance [ *مناسبت لفظی* ] with the name of the Shāh. He would be totally unable to understand why the assonance should not be a fit subject for the exercise of his wit or verbal ingenuity and even regard the invocation itself as a 'happy thought.'

The multiplication of instances seems to me to be scarcely necessary, and this article might fitly conclude here. But the question has been the subject of so much loose thinking and random conjecture, that it might be as well to clear the air by presenting the results of a critical study of the primary authorities.

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<sup>1</sup> "Another instance of the veneration of Muhammadans for pious sentences, and of the familiar use of them in every day life is seen in the mottos engraved on these seals and signets. Sometimes we find a quotation from the Korān in which the name of the owner occurs, e.g. *سلام علی ابراهیم*, 'Peace be upon Ibrahim,' which was engraved on the official seal of Ibrahim Pasha, father of H.H. the Khedive." E. T. Rogers, 'Arabic Amulets and Mottos' in *J.R.A.S.*, 1879, p. 126.

The expression 'Allāhu Akbar' was not devised or invented by Akbar or any of his courtiers or flatterers. As a religious exclamation, it had been in general vogue throughout the Islamic world for hundreds of years before Akbar was born. It was one of the commonest battle-cries in the first centuries of Muhammadan conquest and the verbal form *takbīr* points emphatically to its habitual and exceedingly frequent repetition.

The ordering of the words of the legends on Mughal coins is often so arbitrary, fantastic and even senseless that nothing can be built on the preposterous precedence given to the word 'Akbar' on six or seven specimens of the subsidiary issues on silver.

The selection of punning mottos for coins, sealings, etc., is a very common Muhammadan practice and the devoutest Moslem not only sees no 'levity' or irreverence in a *jeu de mot* or paronomasia on a Qur'ānic text or phrase, but regards it as a proof of wit and ingenuity.

Akbar undoubtedly attempted to found a new sect or religion and did claim to be the Supreme Head of the Islamic Faith in India, but he never pretended to be or called himself even *Nabī* or 'Prophet' in the Musalmān sense of the word. The title of *Khalīf* had been assumed by many rulers in Islām before him and continued to be borne by his successors without protest.

There is no warrant in the original authorities for supposing that Akbar "laid claim to Divinity" any more than other rulers in regard to whom sentiments like those embodied in the Shakespearian 'There's such divinity doth hedge a King' are the merest commonplaces of the world's literature.

## VI. DARBS AND CHARNS.

The fanciful designation invented by Akbar for a silver coin which was the half of the *Jalāla* or square rupee of the Ilāhi type was *Darb* (Blochmann, *Āin*, Trans. I, 31; Text, I, 26, l. 16.) The origin of the name is exceedingly obscure. The word itself occurs in no other passage of the *Āin* or anywhere in the *Akbarnāma*, or the contemporary chronicles of Nizāmu-d-dīn Ahmad and Badāoni. But the denomination frequently arrests attention in the monetary statements of the *Tūzuk-i-Jahāngiri*, and the author takes care on several occasions to inform his Persian readers that it was the local or Indian name of the moiety of the Rupee. The earliest mention is in the Emperor's diary of the second year of his reign. The passage derives added interest from its connection with the custom of 'Nisār.' Jahāngir tells us that on coming to the throne, he gave the specific name *Nisārī* (scattering or showering-money) to the quarter-rupee. The majority of the coins exhibiting the denomination on their faces turn the scale at 44 grains. Coins of higher as well as lower weights exhibit this specific name, but they are extremely rare. This entry shows that *Darbs* or half-rupees also were used as 'largesse money' and thrown about to be scrambled for by the crowd. "On Friday the 7th" [Jumādā I, 1016 A.H. 2 R.Y.], we read, "when a watch of day, had passed, leaving the city [Kābul] auspiciously and with pleasure, a halt was made at the *julghāh* (meadow) of the Safid-Sang. From the *Shahr-ārā* [Garden, which was the encamping place for the royal standards"], as far as the *julghāh* I scattered *darb* and *charan*, that is, half and quarter rupees [with both hands]."

باهر دو دست را از قسم زر درپ و چرن که نصف و ربع رویده بوده باشد بر فقرا و مساکین پاشیدم .

*Op. cit.*, Rogers and Beveridge's Trans. I, 121; Persian Text, Ed. Sayyad Ahmad Khān, Aligarh, 1864. p. 57, four lines from foot.

A strict interpretation of Abūl Fazl's words would necessitate the restriction of the denomination to those half-rupees only which are square in shape and are of the Ilāhi type. But the designation appears to have been applied even in Akbar's reign to the round half-rupee also. The unique half-rupee in the White King cabinet which had the denomination inscribed on it was round (Catalogue, Part III, No. 3551; Num. Chron. 1896. Pl. XI, No. 8). It should be borne in mind, however, that the date is 47 R. and that Abūl Fazl completed the *Āin* in the 42nd year.

The Emperor Jahāngīr and the author of the *Bādishāh-nāma* also apply the term to the half-rupee in general.

It has been thought that the same coin-denomination is inscribed on some *whole* rupees of 48 and 49 R. which have been attributed to Sitpūr, Sitāpūr and even Peshāwar (B.M.C. 177; P.M.C. 352-4), but the decipherment is, in my humble opinion, not at all convincing, and the *entire legend* on the obverse appears to me to stand in need of an *absolutely new* and revised reading. The regnal or Hijri dates are occasionally wrong or inconsistent on Mughal coins and other small errors also sometimes occur, but no mint master could have been so careless or ignorant as to go on deliberately announcing to the public for two years together that a whole rupee was a half.

I will now collect and bring together under one view several scattered notices from which it would appear that Jahāngīr introduced or had a strong partiality for the practice of reckoning or referring the money-value of the presents made by him to ambassadors and other visitors from foreign parts to *Darbs* or half-rupees. Akbar's gifts of this sort are, frequently, recorded in terms of *tankas*. Thus Nizāmu-d-dīn Aḥmad informs us that Sayyad Beg, the ambassador of Shāh Tahmāsp had seven laks of *tankas* given to him. (*Ṭabaqāt-i-Akbarī*, Text, 257 = E.D. V. 276.) Badāonī tells us that on one occasion he himself was given a present of 10,000 *tankas* (Text, II, 402, Lowe's Trans. II, 416). Other examples will be found in my article on the Murādī Tanka (Num. Sup. XXVIII, 181). Jahāngīr's presents were often announced in terms of *darbs*. Witness the following excérpts:—

“On the 21st [Farwardīn XII R. = 9th April, 1617] I gave leave to Muḥammad Rizā, ambassador of the ruler of Irān,<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Muhammad Rizā Beg was at the Imperial Court about the same time as Sir Thomas Roe, and Roe has a good deal to say about him. See ‘Embassy,’ Ed W. Foster, 295-7, 300, 302, 310, Roe says that on one occasion, Jahāngīr “gave him for expence 20000 *rupias* for which hee made innumerable *Teselims* and *Sizedaes* [sijdas]”. *Ibid.*, 303. Elsewhere, Roe in speaking of the ambassador's departure says that he was “not sicke as he pretended, but receiving no content from the king in his businesse, he suddenly took leave; and having given thirty fair horses at his departure, the king gave in recompence *three thousand Rupias* which he took in great scorne” (*Ibid.*, II, 400.) The statement occurs in an entry dated 30th April 1617, the day on which Aghā Nūr brought to Roe “the excuses of the Persian Ambassadour in taking his leave of me.” It is true that Roe puts the figure at “three thousand Rupias,” Jahāngīr at ‘thirty thousand Rupees’ and “sixty thousand darbs” It looks as if می is a misreading or miswriting for صد and شصت for

شش. The Emperor and king James I's envoy are undoubtedly speaking of one and the same transaction and there are no good grounds to accuse Jahāngīr of having wilfully exaggerated and decupled the value of his present. The converse supposition that ‘three’ has been

and bestowed on him 60000 *darabs*, equal to 30000 rupees, with a dress of honour." [شصت هزار درب که سی هزار روپیہ بودہ] [باشد].

*Ibid* Trans. I, 374; Text, 185, l. 9.

"A present of 100000 of *darbs* was given the Wakils of 'Ādil Khān' [13, Bahman, XII, R.Y.].

*Ibid.*, Trans. I, 433; Text, 214, three lines from foot.

"Thirty thousand *darbs* were given to the Wakil of Quṭbu-l-Mulk who had brought the tribute." [11 Isfandār-maz XII, R.Y.].

*Ibid.*, Trans. I, 439; Text, 218, l. 9.

"On Thursday, the 4th of the Divine month [Mihir XIII, R.Y.] Sayyad Kabīr and Bakhtar Khān, the Wakils of 'Ādil Khān, who had brought his offering to the exalted court, obtained leave to return \* \* \* and a present of 6000 *darbs* was given to each of them for expenses" [خرچی].

*Ibid.*, Trans. II, 36; Text, 244, l. 3.

"Mir Sharīf, the Wakil of Quṭbu-l-Mulk, who was at court took leave, \* \* \* 24000 *darb*, a jewelled dagger, a horse and a dress of honour were also given to the aforesaid Mir Sharīf." [2 Khūrdād XIV R.].

*Ibid.*, Trans. II, 90; Text, 271, five lines from foot.

"On the 24th [Tīr Ilāhī, XIV R.Y.] I gave 1000 *darbs* as a present [در وجہ انعام] to Sayyad Ḥasan, the ambassador" [of Shāh 'Abbās of Persia].

"I distinguished him [Muḥammad Zāhid, the ambassador of 'Izzat Khān, ruler of Urganj or Khiva who had brought some presents] with the eye of kindness, and on the spur of the moment [عجالة الوقت] gave the ambassador 10000 *darbs* (Rs. 5000) as a present." [17 Amardād XV R.Y.].

*Ibid.*, Trans. II, 165; Text, 310, l. 1.

"On Mubārak-shamba (Thursday) the 27th [Ardībihisht, XIII R.Y.]. I presented Ḥakīm Masīḥu-z-zamān with 20000 *darbs* (8 anna pieces) and to Ḥakīm Ruḥu-llah 100 Muhrs and Rs. 1000."<sup>1</sup> *Ibid.*, Trans. II, 11; Text, 230, four lines from foot.

"I gave Kunwar Karan<sup>2</sup> 10,000 *darab*" [9 Ardībihisht, X R.Y.].

*Ibid.*, Trans. I, 287; Text, 141, l. 20.

wrongly read for 'thirty' is put out of court by Roe's remark about the ambassador having taken the present 'in great scorn.'

<sup>1</sup> The passage is translated in Elliot and Dowson, VI, 357.

The words for '8 anna pieces' are not in the Persian text.

<sup>2</sup> He was the eldest son and the heir apparent of 'Rānā Amrā,' i.e. Rana Amar Singh of Udaypūr. There is a good deal about him in Tod's *Rajasthān*, Calcutta Reprint, 1899, pp. 376-386. It will be seen that the word is here written '*darab*,' and that in the immediately preceding



"On Sunday, the 1st Bahman [XIII R.Y.] a reward of 1000 *darb* (Rs. 500)<sup>1</sup> was given to Hāfiz Nād 'Alī the reciter."

*Ibid.*, Trans. II, 69; Text, 260, three lines from foot.

"On the same day [15 Tīr, XII R.Y.] Yādgar Qurchī<sup>2</sup> was presented with 14000 *darbs*, and I promoted him to the mansab of 500 personal and 300 horse."

*Ibid.*, Trans. I, 379-80; Text, 188, l. 5.

"Hunarmand, the European<sup>3</sup> who had made the jewelled throne, I presented with 3000 *darb*, a horse and an elephant." [19 Farwardīn, XIV R.Y.]

*Ibid.*, Trans. II, 82-3; Text, 267, l. 27.

"As the anniversary of Shaikh Muhammad Ghaus had arrived, I gave his sons 1000 *darbs* (Rs. 500)<sup>4</sup> for its expense." [Shahrīvar XIII R.Y.]

*Ibid.*, Trans. II, 26; Text, 239, l. 4.

'In this year [15th R.Y.] 85000 *bīghas* of land 3325 *Khar-wārs* (of rice), 4 villages, 2 ploughs (of land) and a garden, Rs 2327, 1, Muhr 6200 *darbs* (half-rupees), 7880 quarter-rupees (*Charan*), 1512 tolas of gold and silver and 10000 dams from the treasury<sup>5</sup> were given in my presence as alms [نصدي] to faqīrs and necessitous people." [ارباب استحقاق]

extract we have *darb*. Mr. Whitehead (P.M.C. lxxxvi) and others also give *darab*. But the latter would appear to be wrong; as Abūl Faẓl in his vocalization of the word explicitly states that the 're' is ساكن or quiescent. (*Āin*, Text, I, 20, l. 16.)

<sup>1</sup> The words in brackets have been added by the translator.

<sup>2</sup> "The Qur is a collection of flags, arms and other insignia which follow the king wherever he goes." Blochmann, *Āin*, Trans. I, 50 note. Bernier's description of the 'Kours' (Travels, Ed. V. A. Smith, p. 266) will be found in the chapter on the so-called 'Portrait-Coins.' The Qurchī was the officer in charge of the Qur. See also Irvine, *Army of the Indian Mughals*, p. 31.

<sup>3</sup> This was the Frenchman Austin de Bordeaux. Four letters of this adventurer have been recently published in the *Journal of the Panjāb Historical Society*, in the first of which dated 20th 1620, he informs Messieurs les Aubris that Jahāngir had made him a captain of 200 horse and "given him two elephants and two horses, a house valued at eight thousand livres and his likeness in gold to put on my hat." In the fourth, he says he had constructed "a royal throne for the king on which he sits once a year for nine days (which they call New days), when the Sun enters the Sign of the Ram, when their year commences." (Vol. IV, 1915, pp. 7 and 15.) His real name was Augustin Hiriart, but he has signed the first letter as "Augustin Houaremand, qui est un nom que le Roy m'a donné en Persian veut dire inventeur des arts," i.e. "Augustin Houaremand (a Persian name which the king has given me, and which means 'inventor of arts.')" (*Ibid.*, pp. 6-7.)

<sup>4</sup> The words in round brackets are not in the original.

<sup>5</sup> The words in the original are از خزانه وزن "from the treasury of the weighment." The gold, silver, etc., against which the Emperor was weighed on the birthday anniversaries were set apart and given away as alms [نصدي] to the 'deserving poor' (q.v. *Āin*, Tr. I, 269).

*Ibid.*, Trans. II, 198 ; Text, 326, l. 17.

"Eighty thousand *darbs* were given to Zambīl Beg,<sup>1</sup> ambassador of the ruler of Persia." [1 Farwardīn XVII X.Y.]

*Ibid.*, Trans. II, 230 ; Text, 343, l. 11.

"Ten thousand *darabs* (5000 rupees) were given to the relations of Mirzā Sharfu-d-dīn Husain Kāshgharī,<sup>2</sup> who at this time had come and had the honour of kissing the threshold." [Tīr Ilāhī X R.Y.]

*Ibid.* Trans. I, 296 ; Text, 145, seven lines from foot.

"On this day [16 Amardād, XIV R.Y.] Bahlīm Khān one of the chief servants of 'Ādil Khān came and waited on me. As he had chosen my service out of sincerity I bestowed on him unstinted favours, and presented him with a dress of honour, a sword, and 10000 *darbs*, with the Mansab of 1000 personal and 500 horse."

*Ibid.*, Trans. II, 97 ; Text, 275, l. 23.

"On this date [Thursday 1st or 2nd Jumādā I, 1027, XIII R.Y.] Mir Jumla came from Persia and had the good fortune to pay his respects. \* \* \* As he had come with devotion and sincerity, I conferred favours and kindness on him, and presented him with 20000 *darbs* (Rs. 10000)<sup>3</sup> for his expenses [خرجی] and a dress of honour."

*Ibid.*, Trans. II, 3-4 ; Text, 224, ten lines from foot.

"At this time [Amardād, XVII R.Y.] Mir Zahīru-d-dīn, the grandson of Mir Mirān son of the famous Shāh N'imatu-llah came from Persia and waited on me and received as a present a dress of honour and 8000 *darbs*."

*Ibid.*, Trans. II, 236 ; Text, 346, l. 27.

"Summoning Jagat Singh [son of Rāja Bāsū of Mau and Pathan] in all haste to court, I honoured him with the title of Rāja and the Mansab of 1000 personal and 500 horse, and bestowed 20000 *darbs* on him out of the public treasury for his expenses." [مهد خرج] XIII R.Y.

*Ibid.*, Trans. II, 75 ; Text, 264, l. 6.

"To Allah-dād, the Afghān, who accepting my service, had separated himself from the evil-minded Ahdād and come to

<sup>1</sup> This name is very variously written in the manuscripts.

<sup>2</sup> The words in round brackets are the translator's gloss. Mirzā Sharfu-d-dīn Husain was the great-great-grandson of the renowned Khwāja Nasīru-d-dīn 'Ubaidu-llah Ahrār. He was a Commander of Five thousand and was married to Akbar's sister, Bakhshī Bānū in the 5th year of that Emperor's reign. See his life in Blochmann *Āin*, Trans. I, 322-3.

<sup>3</sup> The value in rupees is not of the author's giving. Mr. Beveridge correctly points out that this Mir Jumla should not be confused with the renowned diamond merchant, minister and conqueror, of whom Bernier and Tavernier speak so frequently. But his conjecture that they stood to each other in the relation of father to son is unwarranted.

court, I gave 20000 *darabs* (10000 rupees).<sup>1</sup> [21 Farwardīn, XI R.Y.]

*Ibid.*, Trans. I, 321 ; Text, 157, l. 19.

"A present of a jewelled dagger, a muhr of 100 tolas and 20000 *darbs* was made to Udā Rām.<sup>2</sup> [6 Āzar, XII, R.Y.]

*Ibid.*, Trans. I, 408 ; Text, 202, l. 19.

"On this date [8th Khūrdād XI R.Y.] I bestowed 20000 *darabs* (10000 rupees)<sup>3</sup> on Allah-dād Khān the Afghān."

*Ibid.*, Trans. I, 325 ; Text, 159, l. 27.

"On the 20th, Mīr Mīrān came and waited on me. \* \* \* He had become a Qalandar and a dervish, and came to me at Ajmer in a way that no body on the road could recognize him.<sup>4</sup> I soothed all the troubles of his mind and the miseries of his inward and outward condition, and gave him a mansab of 1000 personal and 400 horse, and presented him with 30000 *darabs* in cash" [ ۵۱ ]

[Āzar Māh X R.Y.]

*Ibid.*, Trans. I, 304-6 ; Text, 150, l. 2ff

"On the 13th [Ardibehisht XVII R.Y.] by the advice of the physicians, and especially of Ḥakīm Mūminā I was lightened by being bled from my left leg. A present of a dress of honour was made to Muqarrab Khān and one of 1000 *darbs* to Ḥakīm Mūminā."

*Ibid.*, Trans. II, 232 ; Text, 344, l. 14.

"On Friday 10th [Shahrivar XVII R.Y.] by the advice of Ḥakīm Mūminā I was relieved by bleeding from the arm. Muqarrab Khān, who has great skill in this art, always used to bleed me, and possibly never failed before, but now failed twice. Afterwards, Qāsim, his nephew, bled me. I gave him a dress of honour and Rs. 2000 and gave 1000 *darbs* to Ḥakīm Mūminā."

*Ibid.*, Trans. II, 237 ; Text, 347, l. 13.

It will be seen that the word occurs about twenty-two times in the *Tūzūk-i Jahāngīrī*. I cannot call to mind any instance of its use in the *Iqbāl-nama* of the Emperor's Private Secretary, Mu'atamad Khān, and it is found only once in the

<sup>1</sup> The words in round brackets have been added by the translator. Allah-dād was the grandson of the Pīr Raushanāī or Jalāla Tārīkī as the Musalmān historians call the leader of the turbulent 'Raushanyas'—in fighting against whom Birbal met his death. Elphinstone, Ed. Cowell, 517 ff.

<sup>2</sup> This man was a Dakanī Sardār or Amīr of the Nizāmshāhī rulers of Aḥmadnagar. He was a Brahman, and was at one time in the confidence of Malik Ambar, but afterwards deserted him and went over to the Mughals. Jahāngīr promoted him to the rank of 3,000 personal and 1,500 horse. *Tūzūk*, Trans. I, 398. Bahlīm Khān another deserter, subsequently received 10,000 *darbs*. *Ibid.* II. 96).

<sup>3</sup> The explanation in parenthesis is not of the Emperor's giving.

<sup>4</sup> Qalandars shave off not only the head and beard, but also the eyebrows. See *Mīrāt-i-Sikandari*, Trans. Bayley, 229.

voluminous *Bādishāh-nāma* of 'Abdul Hamīd. In his account of the celebrations in honour of the Princess Jahānārā's recovery from her accident, he says that precious stones and gold and silver coins of the aggregate value of seventy-thousand rupees were waved round her head (نثار) and given away in charity. Among these were "10000 rupees worth of *durust*, i.e. whole rupees, and half-rupees (*Nīma*) which are called *Darb*, and quarter rupees which are styled [گزارشی دهند] *Niṣār* and imitations [نمايل] in silver of various kinds of fruits."

Text, II, 396, l. 20 [A.H. 1054].<sup>1</sup>

The designation would afterwards appear to have gone out of use and I have not come across it in any of the later chroniclers. It is now perfectly obsolete and is not noticed in the *Burhān-i-Qat'i*, *Ghiyāṣu-l-Lughāt*, *Bahār-i-Ajam*, *Farhang-i-Rashīdī* or any other Persian lexicon compiled after the middle of the 17th century.

It is clear from these notices that Jahāngīr had a fancy for expressing his money-gifts to ambassadors, visitors from foreign parts, physicians and artists in terms of *Darbs*. It is not easy to give any reason for the preference shown to this peculiar denomination and we cannot understand why he chose to bestow upon Muḥammad Rīzā the Persian ambassador 60,000 *darbs* instead of 30,000 rupees. It is not at all likely that the payment was really made in *darbs* or that 60000 *darbs* were told out to him. It is not at all improbable that the gift was merely ordered to be recorded in terms of *darbs*. It was probably nothing more than a matter of form, a *façon de parler* of which the object was to magnify the Imperial donor's wealth

<sup>1</sup> I have come across in my reading only one other reference to this curious denomination. It is not in the Persian histories of the House of Timūr, but in the 'Annals and Antiquities of Rājasthān' whose author is responsible for the following translation of a passage from the indigenous chronicle of the Rāhtors of Jodhpūr. "The Raja ['Soor' or Sūraj Singh who came to the throne in 1651 V.S. or 1595 A.C.] took the *pān* against the king Muzaffar, with the title of Viceroy of Guzerat. The armies met at Dhundoca where a terrible conflict ensued. The Rāhtores lost many valiant men, but the Shah was defeated, and lost all the insignia of his greatness. He sent the spoil of *seventeen thousand towns* to the king [Akbar], but kept a *crore of dubs* for himself, which he sent to Jodhpur, and therewith he enlarged the town and fort." (Calcutta Reprint, 1899, p. 865; *Ibid.*, Ed. Crooke. II. 969).

The statement is not unhistorical, but labours under the usual defects of these family annals—inaccuracy, exaggeration and absurd laudation of the achievements of their hero. Sūraj Singh was appointed the deputy of Prince Murād, Viceroy of Gujarāt in 1003 A.H. [1594-5 A.C.]. He did good service in suppressing the rebellion, not of Muzaffar III, but of Bahādūr, his real or supposed son in 1005 A.H. Bahādūr, however, was only a glorified freebooter or outlaw, and the "*seventeen thousand towns*" and the *crore of dubs* can be accepted only with a heavy discount. See *Mirāt-i-Ahmadī*, Bom. Lith. Pt. I, 191-2.

and munificence. The fact that many of the recipients were diplomatic agents or refugees from Persia and Central Asia lends some colour to this view and may have had something to do with the innovation. The Persian silver coin of highest denomination was at this time, the 'Abbāsī, the intrinsic contents of which were worth, according to Olearius and other European travellers, about 15 or 16 pence, about the same as the Mughal half-rupee. (Voyages and Travels of the Holstein Ambassadors, Eng. Trans. 1669, p. 223; Herbert, Travels, Ed. 1665, p. 329; Fryer, New Account, Ed. 1698, pp. 55, 407). It had been introduced by the reigning Shāh, 'Abbās I. The idea at the back of Jahāngīr's mind would appear to be that the visitors from Persia or of Persian birth would more vividly realise and appreciate more correctly the value of his gifts if they were made in terms of a coin which was in purchasing power closely assimilated to the highest denomination in the silver currency of their own country.

After the death of Jahāngīr, this new-fangled designation of the half-rupee would appear to have fallen into desuetude, if it did not become altogether obsolete. It occurs, as I have said, only once again in the historical literature, viz. in the *Bādishāh-nāma* of 'Abdul Hamīd. (Text, II, 396.) This notice, however, indicates that the term was remembered so late at least as 1054 A.H. (1645 A.C.) but we possess no evidence of its survival thereafter.

This article may fitly conclude with a few words about the denomination 'Charn.'<sup>1</sup> Abūl Fazl informs us that it was the name given by Akbar to the fourth part of the Jalāla or square rupee. It occurs four times in the *Tūzūk*, and is invariably employed for the quarter rupee. "At the time of mounting, my son of prosperous fortune Shāh Jahān," the Emperor writes in his Journal of the 13th year, "had brought 20000 *Charan*, or Rs. 5000, for the Nisār (scattering) and I scattered them as I hastened to the palace" [Aḥmadābād]. Rogers and Beveridge's Trans. II, 9; Text, 229, l. 24. In the Diary of the 15th year we read that he scattered 10,000 *charns*, in the course of the procession, when he visited the garden of Qāsim Khān near Āgra. (*Ibid.*, II, 187; Text, 320, l. 23.) Two other notices of similar import arrest attention at pp. 194 and 198 (Text, 325, 326) of the same volume. The author of the *Bādishāh-nāma* however, uses it for the *quarter-muhr*, and the name given by him to the quarter-rupee is *Nisār*. (Text, II, 396, ll. 13-20.) I have noticed the word

<sup>1</sup> This word is often transliterated 'Charan' (e.g. Rogers and Beveridge, *Tūzūk*, Tr. II, 9, 194, 198) but Thomas (Chronicles, 421) and Blochmann (*Āin*, Tr. I, 31) write, *Charn*, and Abūl Fazl's own vocalization (*Āin*, Text, I, 26, l. 17) shows that the latter is correct, as the *rā* is quiescent (ساکن).

only once again in the later chronicles. This is in the *Maāḡir-i-‘Ālamgīrī* in which there is a long story of a forced march made by Prince Muhammad A‘zam and his son Bīdār Bakht from ‘Bangāla’ to the Emperor’s camp at Udaypūr during the campaign against the Rānā. (1090 A.H. XXIII R.) The purport of the story is that Bīdār Bakht became thirsty and the princes halted at a village-well for a cup of water from a peasant, who was rewarded with a couple of ashraḡis. This naturally aroused the cupidity of the rustic, who attempted to waylay the princes and was at once laid low by an arrow from A‘zam’s quiver. When the few followers who were at all able to keep pace with him came up, the Prince told them that the incident had brought home to him the advisability of “having in his pocket a few *charn*, and *two-annus* and *four-annas* of gold and silver, and black tangahs and shells (cowries) also.” As the passage is loosely worded and the meaning is far from clear, I give below the original :—

پادشاهزاده از آن باز فرمودند که در جیب چند چرن و دو آنه و چهار  
نکه طلا و نقره و تنکلبای سیاه و خرمهره نیز میداشته باشند

(Bibl. Ind. Text, 185, l. 4.)<sup>1</sup>

Here the word ‘*Charn*’ would seem at first sight to be used for the ‘quarter-rupee,’ but we read immediately afterwards of “two-anna and four-anna pieces of *gold and silver*.” But whatever the real meaning of the words may be, the excerpt is remarkable for containing the only reference to the word ‘*Anna*’ which I know of in the Persian Chronicles. As such it is not unworthy of a place in this article.

Briefly, the application of both these terms, *Charn* and *Nisāri*, seems to have been so uncertain and indiscriminate that it is not easy to use them with unquestionable accuracy or restrict them to coins made of a particular metal or possessing a particular weight. The ‘*Charn*’ was originally the designation of the “quarter of the ‘*Jalāla*.’” or Akbar’s *square* rupee and came to be employed not only for the fourth part of the *round* rupee, but the gold muhr. *Nisāri* was the peculiar appellation bestowed by Jahāngir on his quarter-rupee, but the word *Nisār* is inscribed not only on silver pieces of all shapes and sizes, varying in weight from 88 grs. to 14, but on several mintages in *gold*. In fact, it would seem that the

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<sup>1</sup> Elsewhere also this writer speaks of چرن و نقره, “*Charns of gold and silver*” which would seem to show that the word was loosely employed in Aurangzeb’s reign for the fourth part of the muhr as well as of the rupee. (*Maas-‘Ālam*, Text, 333, three lines from foot.) The author of the *Bādīshāh-nāma* also in one place says quite explicitly that half-muhrs were called *Dhans* and quarter-muhrs *Charns*. (Text, II, 396). The passage itself will be found in the article on *Nisārs*.

denomination 'Niṣār' was stamped on a coin regardless of its weight, size, constituent metal or value, and all that it signified was that it had been issued for the purposes of the *Niṣār*, scattering or distribution as largess.

I have shown that 'charn' was in use up to the end of the 17th century, but the following extract from an indigenous record would appear to indicate that its place was taken soon after by *Pāolī*. We are informed that the personal property of Ghāziu-d-dīn Khān Firūz Jang was confiscated at his death in 1122 A.H. and that it consisted of "1½ lakhs of rupees in bills on bankers, 133000 gold muhrs, 25000 Hun (gold), and *Nīm pāolī* (gold), 17000 gold *pāolī*, 400 *adheli* (half) and 8000 whole silver *pāolī*, 140 horses, 300 camels, 400 oxen and 38 elephants." (Irvine, *Later Mughals*, J.A.S.B. 1898, p. 163.) It will be observed that not only *pāolīs* of silver but of gold are here mentioned, and that the ¼th part of the Muhr is called *Nīm-pāolī*. Now we know that *Pāula* was the name given to the quarter-dām by Akbar (*Āīn*. Tr. I. 31). It would seem then that by a transition of meaning similar to that just exemplified in regard to the 'Charn,' *pāolī* had already become the popular designation of not only the fourth part of the rupee, but of the muhr, in the reign of Bahādur Shāh, Shāh 'Ālam I.

## VII. TĀNKĪS.

The one, two and four-*tānkī* pieces which issued from the mints of Aḥmadābād, Āgra, Kābul and Lāhor during the last five years of Akbar's reign are not the least curious and interesting of that Emperor's mintages. The striking of coins *explicitly bearing that denomination* was discontinued by his son and they are never heard of again in the Mughal monetary system. Nor is it easy to account for or prove the necessity of introducing them. Their origin is probably to be looked for in the Emperor's perpetual hankering after innovation.

Rodgers who was the first to publish this type of Mughal money, was so profoundly impressed by the absence of any reason for their existence that he declared they were not coins at all, but only standard weights bearing the Imperial stamp. "It would seem, too," he writes, "that *Weights were minted in Akbar's time* under the auspices of the mint authorities, though jewellers then, as now, kept sets of agate weights. I have seen such minted copper weights from the Lāhōr, Āgra and Kābul mints, which in my previous papers on the copper coins of Akbar, I thought were coins, inasmuch as they have the name of the mint, the year and the month on them, exactly as the coins have. In Āgra, they were called *tānké*, spelt تانكى and were issued, as far as I know, only as four-*tānké* and two-*tānké* pieces. In Kābul and Lāhōr, they were called *Tanké*, spelt تانكى of which I have seen one one-*tānké* and one four-*tānké* piece. From Kābul I have a one-*tānké* and a two-*tānké* piece, and I now give a four-*tānké* piece." (Indian Antiquary, 1890, p. 220.)

This theory has not found favour with modern numismatists. Mr. Lane Poole notices it only to reject it, while Mr. Nelson Wright and Mr. Whitehead ignore it altogether without advancing a more satisfactory or convincing explanation of their own. Mr. Whitehead merely says that "the meaning of the word Tanke (*tānkī*) is obscure. Apparently it was a weight which had little or no connexion with the *tanka*." (P.M.C. Introd. xxvi.) It was pointed out by the present writer in a note published in Num. Sup. XXVII, that the *Tānk* was a weight in very common use in Akbar's days, and that it was equivalent to *about* 63 grs. troy. He did not think it then necessary to do more than cite the following equation occurring in Abūl Faḥl's *Āin*.

"The *dām* weighs 5 *tānks*, i.e. a *tolah*, 8 *māshas* and 7 *surkhs*. It is the fortieth part of the rupee." (*Op. cit.*, Trans. Blochmann, I. 31; Bibl. Ind. Text, I.) It is clear that if the



*Dām* was =  $20\frac{7}{8}$  or  $\frac{167}{8}$  *Māshas*, the *Tānk*, its fifth part, must have been  $\frac{167}{8} \times \frac{1}{5} = \frac{167}{40} = 4\frac{7}{40}$  *māshas* or  $62\frac{7}{10}$  grains at 15 grains to the *māsha* and 180 to the *tola*.<sup>1</sup> If the *tola* of Akbar is supposed, with Prinsep and others to have been equal to about 186 grs., the weight of the *Tānk* would be  $64\frac{7}{10}$  grs. A lower valuation, viz. 184 grs. would yield a figure practically identical, viz.  $64\frac{7}{10}$  grs. Now there are in the Mughal Chronicles and elsewhere several passages in which the *Tānk* is clearly mentioned, and it may not, in view of the obscurity in which the origin of the *Tānk* is involved, be unprofitable to bring them together and present them with such illustrative material as is available.

My first quotation is from the *Memoirs* of the Emperor *Bābur*.

"The people of Hind," he writes, "have also well arranged measures :—

8 *ratīs* = 1 *māsha*; 4 *māsha* = 1 *tānk* = 32 *ratīs*; 5 *māsha* = 1 *misqāl* = 40 *ratīs*; 12 *māsha* = 1 *tūla* = 96 *ratīs*; 14 *tūla* = 1 seer. \* \* \* Pearls and jewels they weigh by the *tānk*." *Op. cit.*, Trans. A. S. Beveridge, 517–8, = Leyden and Erskine, 332.

Briefly, it is here categorically asserted that the *tānk* was equal to 32 *Ratīs* and the *Misqāl* to 40. We are therefore puzzled by the following extract from *Abūl Fazl* who informs us that the *tānk* was equal to only 24 *ratīs*. In a chapter on 'Weights and Measures' he says :—

"*Jeweller's Weights* [وزن جوهری]. These are based on the *Tānk* and the *Surkh* [i.e. *Ratī*]. A *Tānk* is equal to 24 *Surkh* and the ordinary *misqāl* is two *Surkh* more. \* \* \* The standard weights kept ready for use are the following the *biṣwah* [i.e.  $\frac{1}{16}$ th part of a *Surkh*], the rice-grain [ $\frac{1}{16}$ th of a *Surkh*]  $\frac{1}{4}$ th and  $\frac{1}{2}$  of a *Surkh*; 2 *Surkh*, 3 *Surkh*. 6 *Surkh* (which is  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a *tānk*),  $\frac{1}{2}$ , 1, 2, 5, 10, 20 and 50 *tānk*. Any other gradations may be compounded of these weights, and for the imperial service, weights of Cat's eye [*recte* agate]<sup>2</sup> up

<sup>1</sup> These contributions were, for reasons it is not worth while going into, published without the proofs having been corrected by the Editor or the writer. They are consequently disfigured by some typographical errors which I take this opportunity of rectifying.

In line 29, p. 135 read 1091 A.H. for 1041 A.H.

" , , 26, p. 139 read Ahmadābād for Allahābād.

" , , 36, p. 139 read Beames for Beams.

" , , 47, p. 139 read  $1\frac{1}{2}$  *Surkhs* for  $1\frac{1}{2}$  *Surkhs*.

" , , 47, p. 139 read 2½ grs. for 3½ grs.

" , , 3, p. 140 read  $1\frac{1}{2}$  *Surkhs* for  $1\frac{1}{2}$  *Surkhs*.

" , , 3, p. 140 read 62½ grs. for 63½ grs.

<sup>2</sup> The word used in the original is باغوری یا which really signifies 'an agate, carnelian or chalcedony.' *Ain*, Text, II, 60, ll. 12–16. See also

to 140 tānk have been made of such brilliancy that they cannot be distinguished from gems." He then gives a table of *Banker's Weights* [وزن صهری] as under :—

"These are based on the *Tolchah*, the *Māshah*, and the *Surkh*.

Formerly 6 now  $7\frac{1}{2}$  rice-grains = 1 *Surkh*

8 *Surkh* = 1 *Māshah*

12 *Māshah* = 1 *Tolchah*."

As for other Trade-weights, we are told that "formerly in Hindustān, the *Ser* weighed 18 and in some places 14 dām. In the beginning of His Majesty's reign, it was current at 28 and is now fixed at 30, each dām being 5 Tānk." (*Āin*, Tr. Jarrett, III. 125.)

The gist of it is that, according to Abūl Fazl, the *Tānk* was not equal, as Bābur asserts, to 32 *Ratīs* or *Surkhs*, but only to 24, and that according to him, the 'ordinary *Misqāl*' [مذقال مشهور] weighed only 26 *Ratīs* and not 40. He also asserts that the *Tānk* was equal to the fifth part of the *Dām*. What are we to make of such widely divergent statements and which of them is correct? The explanation is that Bābur's weights are *Goldsmith's* weights, Bābur's *Ratī* is the *Goldsmith's* *Ratī* while Abūl Fazl's *Ratī* is the *Jeweller's* *Ratī*. The latter was much heavier than the ordinary or *Goldsmith's* *Ratī*, which Thomas and Maskelyne have respectively estimated at 1.75, and 1.86 grains.

Some light is thrown on the matter by the author of the *Bādishāh-nāma* who informs us in his description of a *Sarpech* or aigrette belonging to Shāh Jahān that there were five large rubies [لعل] in it and he says of the stone in the centre that "its weight was 12 *Tānk*, every *tānk* being equal to 24 *Jeweller's* *Ratīs* and three *Ratīs* less than the *Misqāl*, for the *Misqāl* is equal to 27 *Ratīs*."

هر نانکی بیست و چهار رتی جوهری از مذقال سه رتی کمتر چه مذقال

بیست و هفت رتی است \*

Text. II. 391.

It will be seen that this author makes the *Tānk* equal to only 24 *Ratīs*, but the *Ratīs* are *Jeweller's* *Ratīs*. There is a statement on this subject in the *Travels* of the English physician Fryer which makes the matter clearer still. In a chapter entitled, 'A Corollary of Weights, Coins and Precious

Blochmann, Tr. I, 35 and 615 note. There is an informing article on the subject in Yule and Burnell, Hobson Jobson, Ed. Crooke, p. 43. Agate 8 weights are still used by jewellers in India.

Stones,' he gives in parallel columns the following tables which clearly show that weights having the same names had really different values in the two trades :—

*"Goldsmith's Weights."*

1 Sear is 35 Tolaes.  
 1 Pice is 1 Tola  $\frac{3}{4}$ .  
 1 Tola is 12 Mass,  
 1 Tola is 32 Valls.  
 1 Tola is 2 Gudjanas.  
 1 Tola is 96 Ruttees.  
 1 Tola is  $2\frac{3}{4}$  Tanks.  
 2 Tolas and 19 Valls; or 83  
 Valls make 1 Ounce Troy.

*Jewel Weights.*

3 Ruttees is 1 Val.  
 1 Tank is 24 Rutt.  
 1 Rupee Oranshaw [Aurang-Shāhī] 64  $\frac{1}{2}$  Rutt.  
 1 Miscall is 1 Tank 4 Ruttees.  
 8 Ruttees is 7 Carracks.  
 1 Carrack, 4 grains.  
 20 Vassael, 1 Rutt.  
 3 Tanks, 1 Tola.  
 1 Manjere, 1 Rutt,  $11\frac{1}{2}$  Vas-  
 [sael]."

(A New Account of East India and Persia, Ed. 1698, p. 206. This work was begun in 1672 and finished in 1681. The author was at Sūrāt in 1675 A.C.)

The points which emerge from Fryer's Tables are the following :—

The Tola was = 32 Valls, and 83 Valls made an Ounce Troy = 480 grs. The Tola was, therefore,  $= \frac{480}{83} \times \frac{3}{4} = \frac{1560}{83} = 185.06$  grs

96 Goldsmith's Ratīs = 1 Tola, so this Goldsmith's Ratī was (leaving out the decimals) the 96th part of 185 grs., i.e. about 1.927 grs. troy.

The Goldsmith's Tānk was  $\frac{1}{11}$  of a Tola, i.e.  $\frac{1}{11} \times \frac{1560}{83} = 67.27$  grs.

It is not said how many Goldsmith's Ratīs made a Tānk, but it follows from the above statements that the number was  $34 \frac{1}{11}$  ( $\frac{1}{11} \times \frac{1560}{83} \times \frac{83}{1560}$ ).

So far as to the Goldsmith's weights. In the other table it is explicitly affirmed that

1 Tānk was equal to only 24 Jeweller's Ratīs,

1 Ratī was the  $\frac{1}{178}$ th part of a Rupee of Aurangzeb, i.e.  $\frac{1}{178} \times 178$  or about 2.75 grs.<sup>1</sup>

3 Tānks made a Tola which would, granting that the two Tolas were identical, make the Jeweller's Tānk =  $\frac{1560}{83} = 61\frac{1}{2}$  grs.

Lastly, it is said that the Miṣqāl was = 28 Jeweller's Ratīs. Abūl Fazl gives 26 as the equivalent, and the number in the *Bādishāh-nāma* is 27, but these conflicting statements have nothing to do with the matter in hand and may be, for the

<sup>1</sup> It should be remembered that this is the theoretical or issue weight of the Mughal Rupee. In practice, coins in actual circulation would be used which had lost two or three grains. Ball's first estimate of the value of the Jewellers' or Pearl Ratī was 2.77 grs. Troy (Tavernier's Travels in India, I, 417), but he afterwards corrected it to 2.66 grs. (*Ibid.*, II, Preface xii.)

present left out of the discussion. In a valuable paper on the 'Rare Copper Coins of Akbar,' Rodgers confessed his inability to account for the actual weights of the Tānkī-pieces which are extant or to reconcile them with the statement of either Bābur or Abūl Fazl. As the difficulties by which he was so strongly impressed appear to have been felt by other numismatists also and as his exposition of them is full and clear, I beg permission to cite it *in extenso*.

"The weights of the tānke pieces are a puzzle. Those given in my previous papers—two one-tānké pieces, weighed 59 and 58·8 grains respectively, though much worn; but the two-tānké pieces I have seen vary from 119·5 to 108 grs.: while the three four-tānké pieces described in the present paper vary from 237 to 244·5 grains. This should make the one-tānké piece about 61, or perhaps 62 grains. Now the *Āin-i-Akbarī* gives the weight of a jeweller's tānk as 24 *ratīs*, and on actual weighment I find that 24 *ratīs* = 42 grs. and in this I am supported by Thomas, who says 1 *ratī* = 1·75 grs. Therefore a one-tānké piece should weigh 42 grs. but it does weigh 58·8 to 62 grs. Again in Bābar's *Table of Indian Weights* given by Thomas the *Tāng* is said to weigh 32 *ratīs*, equal to 56 grains, but even this weight is less than that of worn copper tānké pieces 300 years old. Next, General Cunningham estimates the *ratī* at 1·8229 grs. and Mr. Maskelyne at 1·85. This goes nearer to what we want, if a Tānké-piece of 59 grs. = 32 *ratīs*, because then 1 *ratī* = 1·844 grs. But this is my lowest weight, whereas the four-tānké piece weighs 244·5, though it is worn, making one tānk = at least 61·1 grs. and 1 *ratī* = 1·91 grs. All this makes me think the *Āin-i-Akbarī* is wrong in saying that the tānk was of 24 *ratīs*, and that it was really of 32 *ratīs*. It also makes me think that the *ratī* was heavier then than now." (The Italics are *not* mine.) *Indian Antiquary*, 1890, p. 220. This is hardly helpful, much less satisfactory, and Mr. Lane Poole is justified in saying that this endeavour to reconcile the "weight of the tānkī (say 62 grs. when unworn) with the 'jeweller's tānk' which is stated in the *Āin* to be of 24 *ratīs* (42 grs.);" is unsuccessful (B.M.C. *Introd.* xciii).

It will be seen that neither Rodgers nor his critic has perceived the whole truth or grasped the real explanation of this apparent confusion. It is evident from the facts I have adduced that the weight of the jeweller's tānk was not 42 grs. at all. We have seen that according to Abūl Fazl, the Tānk was  $\frac{1}{4}$ th of a Dām or about 64 grs.

According to Fryer's Tables, it was about the same or a little more. It is also plain that there is no ground for charging Abūl Fazl with error in stating that the [Jeweller's] Tānk was of 24 *Ratīs*, for the equation is found in the *Bādishāh-nāma* as well as in Fryer's Travels. It was the Goldsmith's Tānk which was reckoned at 32 *Ratīs*. Lastly, it is obvious that

there were two kinds of Ratīs, the Goldsmith's and the Jeweller's. The first weighed about 1·92 grs. It was the second that was heavier and equivalent to about 2·7 grs. This is made still more clear by the fact that Fryer expressly states that the Tola was equal to 96 Goldsmith's Ratīs, but the number of Jeweller's Ratīs in the Tola must have been only 72, as 24 Jeweller's Ratīs made a Tānk and 3 Jeweller's Tānks made a Tola.

When these points are borne in mind, there is really no discrepancy between the statements of Bābur and Abūl Fazl. The weights of the Tānkī pieces explain themselves and are just what they might have been expected to be.

The fact is that the Tānk was an *ancient* Indian weight universally employed in the pearl and jewel trade and not altogether disused or obsolete in other commercial transactions. Bābur informs us that in India they weigh pearls and jewels by the *tānk*. Abūl Fazl bears his testimony to the same custom, for the weights of all the finest Crown jewels are recorded by him in Tānks and his chapter on the 'Treasury for Precious Stones' concludes with the following inventory of the most valuable stones in Akbar's possession. "Rubies weighing 11 tānks, 20 surkhs, and diamonds of  $5\frac{1}{2}$  tānks 4 surkhs, each of one lakh of rupees; emeralds weighing  $17\frac{3}{4}$  tānks, 3 surkhs, 52000 rupees; yāqūts of 4 tānks  $7\frac{3}{4}$  surkhs, and pearls of 5 tānks, each 50000 rupees. (Blochmann, Tr. I, 16.)

No reader of Jahāngir's 'Memoirs' could fail to have been struck by the pride and satisfaction with which he enlarges on the rarity, value and beauty of the presents and offerings made to him on the Nauroz, the anniversaries of his birth and other court festivals. These often took the shape of pearls and precious stones and when they were extraordinarily large or remarkable for purity and brilliancy, their weights and the prices paid are minutely registered in the Imperial diary. These notices are interesting for several reasons and are cited below *seriatim*.

"Murtaẓā Khan from Gujarāt sent by way of offering a ring made of a single ruby of good colour, substance, and water, the stone, the socket and the ring being all of one piece. They weighed  $1\frac{1}{2}$  tānks and one surkh, which is equal to one misqāl and 15 surkh \* \* \* A single ruby weighing six surkhs, or two tānks and 15 surkhs, and of which the value was Rs. 25000 was also sent." (Tūzuk, Tr. I, 132-3; Text, 63, ll. 11-17.)

This passage is evidently corrupt 'A ruby weighing six surkhs' could not, as Mr. Beveridge has pointed out, weigh also 2 tānks and 15 surkhs." He suggests that we should, with the India Office Manuscript, read 'shash *barja*' instead of 'shash *surkh*' and that the meaning is probably 'six-sided

or having six segments or facets.' This is not the place to discuss the merits of the emendation. What concerns us is the first equation  $1\frac{1}{2}$  tānk and one surkh = 1 miṣqāl and 15 surkhs. Now if the tānk is taken as equivalent to 24 Jeweller's surkh and the miṣqāl at 27, the first of these two expressions would yield 37 surkhs and the second 42 and the equation cannot be established. It is obvious that it will not do to reckon the miṣqāl with Abūl Faḍl at 26 or with Fryer at 28 surkhs either. It seems to me that there is only one way of proving the identity of the statements and that is by postulating that Jahāngīr made the miṣqāl equal to 26 surkhs and that *fifteen* [پانزده] is a miswriting for *eleven* [یازده]. The constant clerical confusion between these two words is well known to all students of Persian Manuscripts ( $24 + 12 + 1 = 37$ ;  $26 + 11 = 37$ ).

"On the 22nd [Jumādā-l-awwal, 1017 A.H., i.e. III R.Y.] Āsaf Khān made me an offering of a ruby of the weight of seven tānk, which Abūl Qāsim, his brother, had bought in the port of Cambay, for 75000 Rupees."

(*Tūzuk*, Tr. I, 148; Text, 70, ll. 21-2.)

A ruby of eight tānk belonging to the Rānā of Udayapūr was presented by the Prince Sulṭān Khurram to the Emperor. [Xth year, 1024 A.H.]

(*Tūzuk*, Tr. I, 285; Text, 140, l. 8.)

One of the nine diamonds presented by Ibrāhīm Khān Fath Jang, the governor of Bihār weighed  $14\frac{1}{2}$  tānks and was of the value of 1,00,000 rupees [XII R.Y.]. The stones are said to have been obtained from the mine of Khokhra, i.e. Palāmau, or from the treasuries of the "Zamindars of that place."

(*Tūzuk*, Trans. I, 379; Text, 188, l. 4.)

"Of these [the presents made by Mahābat Khān], one ruby weighed 11 miskāls; an European brought it last year to sell at Ajmer, and priced it at 200000 rupees, but the jewellers valued it at 80000 rupees. Consequently the bargain did not come off, and it was returned to him and it was taken away. When he came to Burhānpūr, Mahābat Khān bought it from him for 100000 rupees." (XII R., 1617-8 A.C.)<sup>1</sup>

(*Tūzuk*, Trans. I, 394; Text, 195, ll. 12-15.)

"Among all these [the offerings made by the prince Shāh Jahān] there was a fine ruby they had bought for my son at the port of Goa for 200000 rupees; its weight was  $19\frac{1}{2}$  tānks

<sup>1</sup> This is the ruby spoken of in the Journal of Sir Thomas Roe. "[Ajmer]. May 29 [1616 A.C.]. The Portugalles went before the king with a present, and a Ballas Ruby to sell, that weighed, as was reported, 13 tole, 2 tole and a half being an ounce. They demanded 5 leckes of rupies, but the king offered but one" (Embassy, Ed. Foster, I, 183.) The weight here given is a huge and incredible exaggeration. Thirteen tolas would be more than five ounces or eight hundred carats!

or 17 miskals,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  surkhs.<sup>1</sup> \* \* \* Another was a Sapphire [نیلیم] among the offerings of 'Ādil Khān, it weighed 6 tanks and 7 surkhs, and was valued at 100000 rupees. \* \* \* Another was the Chamkora diamond \* \* ; its weight was 1 tank and six surkhs \* \* \* Again there were two pearls, one of the weight of 64 surkhs or 2 miskals and 11 surkhs and it was valued at 25000 rupees. The other weighed 16 surkhs and was of exceeding roundness and fineness. It was valued at 12000 rupees. Another was a diamond from the offerings of Quṭb-ul-mulk, in weight 1 tank, and valued at 30000 rupees."

*Tūzūk*, Tr. I, 399-400; Text, 198, ll. 2-16

This passage is important from the metrologist's point of view. We have here not one but two identities, viz. "19 $\frac{1}{2}$  tanks or 17 miskals  $5\frac{1}{2}$  surkhs" and "64 surkhs or 2 miskals and 11 surkhs." But it is first necessary to point out that there is an error in the translation. Mr. Rogers has '19 $\frac{1}{2}$  tanks' but Sir Sayyad Aḥmad's text from which his English version was made gives only 19. We find '19 tanks' [نوزده تانك] in the *Iqbāl-nāma* also, where the passage is reproduced

in almost identical terms. (Bibl. Ind. Text, 105, l. 13) by the author who was the Secretary of the Emperor. We may then take it that the correct reading is 19 tanks not 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Now 19 tanks would be = 456 surkhs at 24 surkhs to the tank and 17 miṣqāls  $5\frac{1}{2}$  surkhs would yield exactly the same number of surkhs (456) if the miṣqāl is valued at 26 $\frac{1}{2}$  surkhs. For 17 miṣqāls  $5\frac{1}{2}$  surkhs =  $(17 \times 26\frac{1}{2}) + 5\frac{1}{2} = 442 + 8\frac{1}{2} + 5\frac{1}{2} = 456$  surkhs.

So far as to the first equation. The second is "64 surkhs = 2 miskals and 11 surkhs." It is obvious that this again yields the same equivalent for the miṣqāl, viz. 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ . Thus  $(64 = 26\frac{1}{2} \times 2 = 53 + 11)$ .

The result is that in this passage Jahāngīr has reckoned the tank as equal to 24 [Jeweller's] surkhs and the miṣqāl to 26 $\frac{1}{2}$  (instead of 26).

But as the object of this note is to determine as accurately as the data available will permit the true weight of the tank and its relation to other components of the Indian Scale of Weights, it may be useful to invite attention to another piece of evidence. The weight of the so-called 'Chamkora' [Jhamkora?] diamond is given in this particular recension of the 'Tūzūk' as 1 tank and 6 surkhs. Now Francis Gladwin published in 1788 A.C. a 'History of Jahangir' which was mainly

<sup>1</sup> Tavernier was shown this stone and thus describes it: "Also a balass ruby cut in Cabuchon of fine colour and clean pierced at the apex and weighing seventeen (17) melscales, six melscales make one Once (French)." Travels, Ed. Ball, I, 399.

The author of the *Iqbāl-nāma* also mentions it and says "its weight was seventeen Miṣqāls which, according to the reckoning of the people of Hind, are equal to nineteen tanks." Bibl. Ind. Text, 105, l. 12.

a collection of extracts from the *Tūzuk*, the *Iqbāl-nāma* and the *Maāṣir-i-Jahāngīrī* of Kāmgār Husainī (Elliot and Dowson, VI, 252, 277, and 439). In this book, the weight of the diamond is given as 30 *Rātīs* (p. 40), and this works out again at exactly 24 *Rātīs* per *tānk* (Jeweller's).

"On this day [9 Āzar, XII R.], I made a present to my son Shāh Jahān of a ruby of one colour, weighing 9 *tānks* and 5 *surkh* of the value of 125000 rupees with two pearls."

*Tūzuk*, Tr. I, 409; Text, 202, four lines from foot.

"Among the presents made by Shāh Jahān on New Year's day XIV, R.Y. was a Quṭḥī (?) ruby in weight 3 *Tānks* and very delicate, valued at Rs. 40000." There were also "six pearls one of them, 1 *tānk* and 8 *surkhs* in weight."

*Tūzuk*, Tr. II, 78; Text, 265, ll. 10-11.

[This passage is found in the *Iqbāl-nāma* also, Bibl. Ind. Text, 126, ll. 6-8.]

Āṣaf Khān also presented on the same day "a ruby weighing 12½ *tānks* which had been bought for 125000 Rs."

*Tūzuk*, Tr. II, 81; Text, 266, ll. 32-3.

"My brother [Shāh 'Abbās of Persia] also sent me a ruby weighing 12 *tānks*; which had belonged to the jewel-chamber of M[irzā] Ulugh Beg, the successor of M[irzā] Shāhrukh." [30 Bahman XV, R.Y.] *Tūzuk*, Tr. II, 195; Text, 325 l. 1.

This is found in the *Iqbāl-nāma*, but the weight of the stone is given as 12 *Misqāls* (p. 178, ll. 1-2). Among the 'Great Mogul's Jewels' of which Tavernier has left a circumstantial account, was "a Cabuchon ruby of perfect colour, but slightly flawed and pierced at the apex, which weighs twelve *Melscales*." Travels, Trans. Ball, I, 399. It would seem that Jahāngīr has made a mistake and that the true weight was 12 *Misqāls*.

These extracts and references leave no room for doubt as to the universal use of the *tānk* for weighing pearls, diamonds, rubies and precious stones. But there are reasons for holding that this ancient Hindu weight was not unknown or altogether disused in the purchase and sale of less costly commodities of more general utility.

Thus Abūl Fazl informs us in his curious dissertation on the 'matchlocks' of the Imperial arsenal that for "long guns the weight of a ball does not exceed twenty-five *tānks*, and for smaller ones fifteen." (*Āīn*, Tr. Blochmann, I, 114.)

And his description of the Hindū clepsydra (Gharyāl) or water-clock, begins as follows: "In order to ascertain and indicate the time, a vessel of copper or other metal is made of a hundred *tānks* weight." (*Ibid*, Tr. Jarrett, III, 16). Again Jahāngīr—whose genuine love of fruits and flowers is one of the redeeming features of an otherwise frivolous and contemptible character states that "the Shāhālū (Cherry) of Kashmīr is not inferior to that of Kābul" and records that the



weight of an extraordinarily large one was "one *tānk*, five *surkhs*." (*Tūzūk*, Tr. II, 159; Text, 307, l. 7.)

The marrow of the matter is that the *Tānk* was a weight universally employed in the pearl and jewel trade, and not altogether disused in other transactions. It was, like all other Indian weights, characterised by local variations and subject also to alteration by Governmental interference, but, speaking generally, it was equivalent to *about* 64 grs. I say, *about*, advisedly, because the conditions of the problem preclude the possibility of determining precisely the exact equivalent in Troy grains of the *Tānk* or the *Tola* or the *Ratī* or any other unit of the Hindu ponderary system. That system is purely empirical and not at all amenable to standardisation. It is based practically on the *Ratī*, and no two seeds used for the purpose are or can be of exactly the same weight. A difference therefore of  $\frac{1}{10}$ th of a grain in the *estimated* or hypothetical value of the *Ratī* would eventually soar up to as much as 3 grains in that of the *Tānk*. Rodgers' theory that the *Tānkī* was not a coin but a weight "minted in Akbar's time under the auspices of the mint authorities," is of course untenable. There can be little doubt that it was, like the *dām*, intended to serve both as a coin and a weight. Abūl Faḡl expressly informs us that in the first part of Akbar's reign the "Ser weighed twenty-eight *dāms*," and that at the time when he wrote, it had been "fixed at thirty *dāms*." (*Āīn*, Tr. Blochmann, I, 134, see also *ibid.*, 229 note.)

Now there is no doubt, as Edward Thomas says, that "from time immemorial, in India, coins had been to all intents and purposes, weights, pieces of money, in our sense of the term, having grown out of the archaic use of sections of metal of a fixed and determinate gravity \* \* \* But when these crude sections of metal \* \* \* passed into the more advanced grade of 'coined money,' they were still scrupulously made to contribute to the double purpose of measures of metallic value and officially recognised weights. Their importance, in the latter capacity, consisting in their furnishing readily available tests of any disputed higher weights or measures, so liable to be tampered with by shopkeepers from all time and among all nations." (*Chronicles*, 163-4.) Instructive exemplifications of the prevalence of the custom may be found even in our own times, but were much more common when Prinsep wrote. The *Ankosee* or Poona Rupee, he writes, "appears from Kelly's Tables to have been extensively adopted as an unit in the estimation of value and weight, probably wherever the Mahratta ascendancy prevailed." (*Useful Tables*, p 26.) Elsewhere, he informs us that the "pysa was in some cases adopted as the unit for determining the larger weights of the bazars, as the Gorukhpoory pysa, of which 530 were held equal to a pusseree (five seers) at Ghazee-

poor, and generally throughout the Benares province 2881 'Chulun' [paisa] of Futtehghurh in like manner were assumed as the weight of a maund in that district." (*Ibid.*, 34.)

As regards the object of introducing the new denomination, I can only reiterate the suggestion made in the article in N.S. XXVII. The Tānkī appears to me to have been "issued to provide a fractional currency of which the basis was the *fifth* part of the *Dām* or rather the *tenth* part of the Tanka of about 640 grs. Of the *Dām* and the *tanka* there were already in existence the halves, the quarters and the eighth parts. The idea appears to have occurred to some one of adopting the decimal system of division. The traditional weight of the *Tānk* happened to be about the tenth part of the heavy Akbari Tanka and so pieces were issued which might serve equally well as the fifth part of the *Dām* or the tenth of the Tanka, the two-fifths of the *Dām* or the one-fifth of the Tanka and the four-fifths of the *Dām* or two-fifths of the Tanka." (*Loc. cit.*, p. 140.)

In other words, these Tānkī pieces were struck with a view to provide for the copper currency as complete a series of fractional pieces as existed for the rupee (both square and round). Abūl Fazl informs us and the contents of our Cabinets bear witness to the truth of his statements, that the Emperor had taken care to provide distinct denominational coins, representing the half, quarter, fifth, eighth, tenth, sixteenth and twentieth part of the *Jalāla*, as well as the *Rupiyya*. Of the *Dām* however, we hear that there were only the *Adhelah* (half) *Paulah* (quarter) and *Damrī* or eighth part. (*Āīn*, Tr. Blochmann, I, 31.) Its subdivision, in fact, had been much less elaborate and it had proceeded on the lines of the "ancient Indian quaternary scale" of fours and eights only. Abūl Fazl wrote in the 42nd year of the Emperor's reign. The big Tanka of about 640 grs. is said to have been introduced in the 40th or 44th, and the Tānkī is first traced only in the 46th. It would seem that some time after the big Tanka had become current, the idea of completing the scheme of its subdivision and placing it on the same footing with that of the Rupee suggested itself. The result was the interpolation of the decimal scale and the striking of the one two and four *tānkī* pieces which might be presumed to have been not altogether unuseful in the ordinary purchases of the commonalty. This is shown by the fact that coins answering in weight to the double and quadruple *tānkī* continued to be struck after the death of Akbar. Copper pieces exhibiting the specific denomination *دو تانکی* and *چو تانکی* were struck at Aḥmadābād in the latter half of the 50th year 1141 after the old Emperor's decease by his son under the latter's preaccession name of Shāh Salīm (Rodgers, Mogul Copper Coins, Nos. 3 and 4 in *J.A.S.B.*,

1895, p. 172). The metrology of the various Jahāngīrī issues indiscriminately called *عدل*, *رواني*, *دالچ*, *فلوس*, etc., is obscure and the weights of some of the coins do not fit in with any system of dividing the Dām or Tanka, quaternary, quinary or duodecimal. But it may be said with some confidence that Nos. 12 and 18 (Pl. XII and XIII) of Rodgers' list have the weights of the old four-tānki (245 and 220 grs.), although one of them is called a *رواني* and the other an *عدل*. Similarly, the weight of No. 17 (129 grs.) reminds us at once of the *دو تانكي*. The same observations apply to P.M.C. Nos. 1208 and 1207 which turn the scale in their present condition at 222 and 129 grs. respectively. The fact that four out of these five coins issued from the mints of Qandahār and Kābul perhaps indicates that pieces bearing some correspondence to the Tānki or its multiples had been current in former times in Afghānistān and were, for that reason, the favourite "money of the common people" there.

## VIII. MAḤMŪDĪS.

The identification of the 'Mamoudies,' which are so frequently mentioned in the Journals of Finch and Roe, Herbert and Mandelslo, Thevenot, Fryer, Tavernier and other European travellers is an extremely difficult, if not hopelessly tangled and insoluble problem. They are said to have constituted the favourite medium of exchange in "Surat, Broitchia, Brodra and Cambaya" throughout the first half of the seventeenth century and even later. The books of the English East India Company's Factory at Surat and Broach were kept in Maḥmūdīs, and the prices of all the drugs and other articles of commerce obtainable at Sūrāt are given by Tavernier (who last visited it in 1666 A.C.) in terms of the *Mamoudi* (Travels, Tr 1678, II, 127, 131; Ball, II, 7-8; 19-21.)

Now we know that coins bearing the same denomination were extensively current at this time in Persia also. We have also to consider the claims of the silver issues of Sulṭān Maḥmūd Begada of Gujarāt and his descendants, the Korīs of Nawānagar or Jāmnagar, etc., which were then and down even to comparatively recent times called Jānīs or Maḥmūdīs (Ranchhodji Amarji, *Tārīkh-i-Sorath* Eng. Tr. 246, 81, 91, 145, 156, 301), and lastly, the puzzling monetary issues to which Mr. Lane-Poole has given the distinctive but non-committal designation of 'Coins of Gujarāt fabric.'

In Num. Sup. VI, art. 45, the late Dr. G. P. Taylor attempted to prove by "a method of exhaustion" that the 'Mamoudies' of Finch and the other European sojourners in this country were no other than these last—the strange silverlings exhibiting dates ranging from 989 to 1027 A.H. but uniformly displaying the name of Akbar on the reverse. This verdict was challenged in a closely-reasoned paper by Mr. A. Master (Num. Sup. XXIV, art. 141). The sheet anchor of his argument was an extract from the *Mirāt-i-Aḥmadī* showing that the Jām of Nawānagar was compelled by Shāh Jahān's Ṣūbādār of Gujarāt—A'zam Khān—to close down the mint in which he had been coining maḥmūdīs, and to undertake to pay a *peshkash* of three laks of maḥmūdīs in 1050 A.H. (1640 A.C.)<sup>1</sup> Mr. Master contended that it was "the Nawānagar Korī and its congeners" of Kachh and Kāthiāwār which had "the real right to the name." He opined that it was therefore impossible

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<sup>1</sup> The statement is really borrowed by the author of the *Mirāt* from the contemporary *Bādīshāhnāma* of 'Abdul Ḥamīd and occurs also in the first volume of Khāfi Khān's history. (Bibl. Ind. Text, I. 582, three lines from foot.)

to accept the exclusive claim of 'the Coins of Gujarāt fabric' to that designation. He agreed with Dr. Taylor in holding that the Persian Maḥmūdī was altogether out of the question. As for the coins of Gujarāt fabric, the most that he would concede was that he did "not *entirely* reject the possibility" of their having "been classed with the Maḥmūdīs." (*Loc. cit.*, p. 470.). Regarding the third possible rival, he declared that he did not "wish to make out any case for any coins of the Gujarāt Saṭṭanat, except for that of which the Korī was a copy, the silverling of Muẓaffar III." (*Ibid*, p. 466)

I have no intention of entering the lists on either side in the controversy. Where the data are absolutely inadequate, *a priori* reasoning must be necessarily infructuous. My object is first to invite attention to a piece of contemporary evidence which has been overlooked by both disputants as well as all other writers on this difficult question. I beg permission then to point out that figures or drawings of the 'Sūrat Mamoudis' are given in the English edition of Tavernier's Travels published by J. P[hillips] in 1678, as well as in the French Original, La Haye, 1718.

In Part II (facing p. 2) there is a chapter with the caption "Figures of the Pieces of Gold, Silver and Copper and of the Sort of Shells and Almonds that pass for Money over all Asia," and no less than eight plates of drawings of coins, etc. Figs. 1 to 9 of the plate illustrating the 'Money current under the Dominions of the Great Mogul' represent some gold and silver coins of Aurangzeb. Shāh Jahān, and Jahāngīr. Nos. 9, 10 and 11 are feeble and unsuccessful attempts to delineate a 'Four Pecha,' i.e. double dām or Tanka, a 'Two pecha' or Dām and a Pecha or half-Dām. Fig. 12 stands for 'The Shells,' i.e., Cowries. No. 13 depicts "a Silver-Mamoudi which is the Money of Guzerat" and No. 14 "Half a Mamoudi." A glance at the inscriptions of Fig. 13 is sufficient to show that the obverse reads **محمود شاو بن لطيف شاو** and that the reverse is a bungled eye-copy (by a person ignorant of Persian) of **الوٹق**

**بالله الممان ابو الفتح ناصر الدنيا والدين.** In a word, the legends on this drawing of the "Mamoudi of Guzerat" in 'Tavernier's Travels' are absolutely identical with those on the silver coin of Maḥmūd III shown as No. 65 in Pl. V. of Dr. Taylor's Article on the 'Coins of the Gujarāt Saṭṭanat.' (*Journal*, B.B.R.A.S. 1903, p. 335.) The scrawls on Fig. 14 are not so easy to make out, but it is clearly a coin of the last of the *faincants* of the House—Muẓaffar III (cf. *ibid*, Pl. VI, No. 76).

This would *seem* to show that the Mamoudis mentioned so frequently by Tavernier at least, were the silver coins of the Gujarāt Sultāns, and that the name was not restricted, as

Mr. Master was inclined to think, to the silverling of Muẓaffar III of which the Nawānagar Kori was a copy, but was applied to the issues of his putative father Maḥmūd III also. Whether the term was transferred generically to the similar issues of Maḥmūd I and Muẓaffar II, Tavernier's descriptions or engravings do not enable us to say. Etymological considerations would *seem* to indicate that the name was derived from the great Maḥmūd Begada, and that it afterwards came to be applied to the similar silver mintages of his successors. It is just possible that it was ultimately used loosely for all silver-pieces which bore a general resemblance to them in external appearance, and theoretical contents or intrinsic value.<sup>1</sup>

Leaving the point aside for the present, I must bring to notice another fact which has come to light in the course of these inquiries and which seems to me to be not without an important bearing on the subject. This is a statement to the effect that the Sūrat Maḥmūdīs were coined at Mulher in Baglāna. It first arrested my attention in the Journal of William Finch who was at Sūrat about 1609. It occurs also in the *Imperio Magni Mogolis* of De Laët, which was published in 1631, and the same assertion is made in unmistakable terms in a letter addressed in 1636 A.C. by the President of the Sūrat Factory to the Governor of the English East India Company. I will first cite what Finch says:—

“This Towne [Badur] is the last of note in Pectopshaws Land, who is a small king or Rajaw, a Gentile, keeping on the top of inaccessible Mountaines, which beginne at Curka, and extend many courses [*i.e. kosses*]. He holdeth two faire Cities, Salere and the other Muliere, where the Mamudees are coyned, each having two mightie Castles, which have way to them, but for two men abrest, or for an Elephant at most to get up; having also in the way eightie small fastnesses dispersed on the mountaines to guard the way.” (Purchas, His Pilgrimes, Ed. MacLehose, IV, p. 30.)

There is a very similar statement in De Laët's book, but it is not worth much as the Dutchman can be proved to have taken it, like much other matter, from the Journal of the English factor.

It is otherwise with the following extract from the correspondence of President Francis Breton. “I find not,” he writes in a letter dated 29th April, 1636, “any moneyes paid in other species then the same they were borrowed, without allowance of Vatteau [batta, agio or discount, from Guj. *Valār*] which in tyme of famine and scarcity in this place was growne

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<sup>1</sup> How many issues of ‘Native State’ mints greatly varying in size, shape, weight, legends, and intrinsic contents of metal were indiscriminately called *Rupees* in the eighteenth and even the nineteenth century?

to excessive rates, not less than 13½ M[aḥmudis] per 100 rup[ees]. The reason is that M[aḥmudis] are none of the Kings Coyne, but coyned by the Rajah of Mallore [Mulher] a place distant from hence 70 course or myles, and are onely currant in these adjacent countries not further than Bodera [Baroda]; so that, according to mens occasions for rup[ees] to send for Agra, Amadavad, or any other parts, the *Vatteau* doth rise and fall. But that which raised it to the prementioned rate in tyme of f[amine] was the Benjares [Banjārās] or carriers, which brought corne and provisions [in] abundance from other parts, which they sould here for mamood[ies and] changed them for rup[ees] at any rate. The merchants also of Suratt sent what money they could get to Brampore [Burhānpūr] to procure graine; so that scarcely a rupee could bee found. Since that time the *Vatteau* has daily declined and is now only one mamoodie per 100 rupees." Foster, *English Factories in India*, 1634-36, pp. 224-5.

This is not however the only reference to the mintage of the 'Surat Mamoodie' in Baglāna in this valuable repertory of documents relating to the early history of the English in India. The Burhānpūr factors, Nicholas Bangham and John Leachland also bear witness to it though not so explicitly. On the 24th of January 1622 they sent to the President of Sūrāt a *farmān* which they had procured from this "Pertab Shaw for your more quiatt transporte of your rials to Moulear, if your occasion shall cause neede thereof, with many faire and large promises of good usage there, promising at any tyme, if you would advise him when you would send, hee would meete your rials and conduct them safely in and out of his territories. This wee thought of for your better supply for mamoodies in Suratt, which if it may stand in steed wee shall thinke our tyme and a smale present given him well bestowed; or if not. so much tyme and labour lost, hee seeminge very willing hereunto." Foster, *ibid*, 1622-1623, p. 25.

The points which emerge from these extracts are that the Sūrāt 'Mamoodies' were actually coined at Mulher in Baglāna in 1609, 1622 and even 1636 A.C., that (2) they were "not the King's Coyne" that is, they were not strictly Imperial money—they did not bear the name of the Emperor Shāh Jahān—who was ruling at the time when Breton wrote, that (3) the name of the Rāja of Baglāna in 1609 and 1622 was Partāb or Pratāp Shāh, that (4) the East India Company's factors at Sūrāt were sometimes, compelled to send their 'rialls'—or Spanish dollars—to Mulher to be melted down and recoined into Maḥmudis and that (5) as the road lay through a difficult and dangerous country infested by banditti, 'Pertab Shāw' had in 1622 promised to give them all the necessary facilities and to conduct them [the rials] safely in and out of his territories, in the hope no doubt of making a considerable

profit from the seigniorage.<sup>1</sup> The Company did business on an extensive scale and required every year several laks of Mahmūdīs to pay for the goods bought at Sūrāt for exportation to Europe, and these Mahmūdīs were obtained by the sale or recoinage into rupees at the Sūrāt mint of the silver bullion or specie (which last consisted mostly of rials or Spanish dollars) brought by the ships from England.

Now who was this Pratāpshāh and how did he come or why was he permitted, to coin Mahmūdīs at Mulher and what were the peculiar reasons for the Mahmūdīs continuing to be the favourite, if not the only currency in Sūrāt, Broach and Baroda for more than eighty years after the Mughal conquest of the Province?

It is not possible to answer all these questions fully or satisfactorily. I must, at present, content myself with placing before my readers some pertinent facts which it has been possible to glean from the Chronicles, in the hope that they may prove helpful to a more lucky or more gifted inquirer in discovering the solution of the problem.

Well then, Abūl Fazl writes thus in the *Akbarnāma* in the annals of the 17th year [980 A.H. 1572-3 A.C.] in which Akbar himself visited and annexed Gujārāt.

"One of the things which happened after the conquest of Sūrāt, was the coming to Court of Baharji [*Variant*, Baharjio or Baharjiv], the ruler of Baglāna, who was an influential landholder in that part of the country. \* \* \* Let it not be concealed that Baglāna is a country, one hundred kos long and thirty kos broad. It has 2000 horse and 16000 infantry. Its revenue is 6½ krór of dāms. Whoever is the ruler, is called Baharji. There are two forts—Salhir and Mulhir on the summits of hills. It has also two large cities—Antāpūr and Chintāpūr. It lies between Gujrāt and the Deccan; and it submits to whatever of the two is the stronger. At this time when Gujrāt came into the possession of the imperial servants, the ruler being awed by the majesty and might of the Shāhinshāh, did good service and brightened his countenance by performing the prostration." (*Op. cit.*, Tr. Beveridge,

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<sup>1</sup> Partāb Shāh was, it is clear, reigning in 1622 A.C. but I cannot say how long he continued to do so. A grant, however, dated 1635 A.C. shows that "Bāglān was afterwards ruled by one Bhairamshah, \* \* (Bombay Government Selections XXVI, New Series, p. 110). The grant is dated Budhwar [Wednesday] Paush Shuddha 8th Shaka 1557, 1635 A.D. In it Bhairam Shah confers on a Brāhman named Mor Joshi, as much land belonging to Kasba Kāñasi of the Ba lān Prānt as can be cultivated with one plough, and a well situated therein." (Bombay Gazetteer, Vol. XVI, Nāaik, p. 403 and Note.) I venture to suggest that the true reading of the names is Bhairav Shāh. He must have succeeded Partāb whose father Nārāyan Shāh is known to have been ruling in 1596 A.C. Partāb himself was on the throne in the 45th year of Akbar's reign, circa 1600 A.C. (*Akbarnāma*, Text, III. 770).



III, 41, 43; Text, III, 29, 30.) There is a statement of very similar import in the *Āin* in which the only new item of information is that the Rāja was of the Rāthod clan. (Jarrett's Trans. II, 251; Text, 492, four lines from foot.)

Again, in his Chronicle of the 45th year (1008 A.H. 1600 A.C.), Abūl Faḡl records that "Rāja Partāb, the Zamīndār of Baglāna was exalted by performing prostration at the heavenly threshold [Akbar was then encamped at Burhānpūr]. He obtained the wishes of his heart by imperial favour and was raised to the rank of a commander of three thousand, given the banner and the drum [علم و نثار] and given permission to depart to his home."

(Akbarnāma, Text, III, 770, two lines from foot.)

Next, we find Jahāngīr saying in the Journal of the 12th year of his own reign (1026-7 A.H. 1617-8 A.C.), that on Friday the 24th [*recte* 21st, of Mihr] Rāja Bharjiv, Zamīndār of Baglāna, came and waited on me. His name is Partāp; every Rāja there has been of that place they call Bharjiv. \* \* \* The province of Baglāna lies between Gujarāt, Khāndesh and the Deccan. \* \* \* The aforesaid Rāja does not drop the thread of caution and prudence in dealing with the rulers of Gujarāt, the Deccan and Khāndesh. He has never gone himself to see any of them, and if any of them has wished to stretch out his hand to possess his kingdom, he has remained undisturbed through the support of the others. After the provinces of Gujarāt, the Deccan and Khāndesh came into the possession of the late king (Akbar), Bharjiv came to Burhānpūr and had the honour of kissing his feet, and after being enrolled among his servants was raised to the mansab of 3000. At this time, when Shāh Jahān went to Burhānpūr, he brought eleven elephants as an offering. He came to court in attendance on my son and \* \* \* was dignified with royal favours. (*Tūzūk*, Tr. I, 396; Text, 196.)

A few pages further, the Imperial diarist writes "Having raised Raja Bharjiv, Zamīndār of Baglāna, to the mansab of 4000, I gave him leave to go to his native country. and an order was given that when he arrived there, he should send to Court his eldest son, who was his successor, that he might do duty in my presence." (*Ibid.*, I, 411; Text, 203, l. 28). For two other references to the Rāja, which are not important, *vide* Trans. I, 221, II, 114.

The ruler of Baglāna is mentioned by his dynastic or family name of Bharji several times in the *Bādishāhnāma* also. He attended at court and made the *Kurnish* to Shāh Jahān in the fifth year of that Emperor's reign, 1041 A.H. 1631 A.C.) and again in the ninth (1045 A.H. 1636 A.C.—Text, I, i. 419. I, ii. 139).

He appears to have incurred the Imperial resentment for some reason and was brought to court with all his elephants

by Biram Beg, Mir Bakhshī who had been sent to chastise him some time afterwards in the same year (IXth). *Ibid.*, I, ii. 186. In the 10th (1046 A.H. 1637 A.C.), Prince Aurangzeb the viceroy of the Dekkan received orders to conquer and annex his territory. (I, ii. 280.) The principality was therefore invaded by Māloji Dakani and Muhammad Tāhir, and the Rāja, after standing a prolonged siege in Mulher, surrendered on 1st Šafar 1048 A.H. (14th June, 1638 A.C.) and was enrolled among the imperial mansabdars as a commander of 3,000 horse and given the neighbouring district of Sultānpūr as Jāgir (XIth year—Text, II, 105–109.)<sup>1</sup> The Rāja died soon afterwards and his son named Biramjī [or Paramjī] who is said to have become a convert to Islām was given in the 12th year the title of Daulatmand [Khān], and the brevet rank of 1,500 horse at the recommendation of Prince Aurangzeb on 7 Zī-l-qa'da, 1048 A.H. (12th March, 1639), Text II. 141–2. See also II, 723.) Daulatmand is thrice mentioned in the *Ālamgīrnāma* also. He continued to adhere to Aurangzeb and fought on his side in the battles of Dharmātpūr and Samūgarh in the War of the Succession, and was also employed against Bijāpūr in the 9th year of 'Ālamgīr's reign, 1076–1077 A.H. 1666 A.C. (*Op. cit.*, 63, 93, 989.)

This is what can be gathered about Pratāp Shāh in whose capital Mulher, Mahmūdīs are expressly said by Finch as well as Breton to have been coined. It is not without bearing on the subject, but the following statements are more interesting and more germane to the matter immediately under consideration. Khāfi Khān, who had lived for some time in the district and paints a glowing picture of its fruitfulness and beauty, informs us that Baglāna had been in the possession of the ancestors of Bharjī, its Zamīndār, for fourteen hundred years. Its revenue [محمول] amounted then to fifteen lacs of rupees<sup>2</sup> and they [the Rājas of Baglāna] had in former times coined their own money *در زمان سابق صاحب مکه بود اند* (Bibl Ind. Text, I, 561 seven lines from foot.)

The author of the *Bādishāhnāma* writes:—

<sup>1</sup> This was probably the Rāja who is called Bhairam [*recte* Bhairav] Shāh in the land grant of Shake 1557, 1635 A.C. cited in Note 3. He was, so to say, Bhairav Shāh the Second; and when the author of the *Bādishāhnāma* calls him Bahirjī he is attempting to reproduce his personal name which happened to be identical with the title or appellation by which Abūl Fazl and Jahāngīr expressly say that the rulers of Baglāna were popularly known. (*Akbarnāma*, Trans. III, 43; *Tūzuk*, Trans. I. 396.)

<sup>2</sup> This is really copied from the 'Akbar-nāma' of Abūl Fazl who says (Trans. III, 43; Text, III, 30) that the revenue of the district was 6½ kroras of dāms. The exact equivalent of this at the rate of 40 dāms to the Akbari rupee would be 16,25,000 rupees.

“The land-revenue [جمع] of the province of Baglāna in the days of Bharji's ancestors appears from the statements of the wardens [مرزبان] of the district to have been twenty *laks* of the tankas of that country of which each is equal to nine current tankas. But at this time, when it came into the possession of the Servants of the Everlasting Kingdom, the income [حاصل] had gone down to half [the former amount] and the revenue [جمع] was fixed at one krór, sixty laks of dāms or four laks of rupees for all the twelve months of the year.” As the passage is important, I beg permission to quote the original words below :—

جمع ولایت بگلانه در زمان ابایی بهرجی آنچه از گفتار مرزبانان آن سر  
زمین بوضوح پیوسته بیست لک تذکة معمول آن ملک که نکه نه تذکة رابع  
باشد بوده و درینولا که بتصرف بندگان این دولت ابد مدت در آمد چون  
حاصلش بنصف رسید جمع آن یک کوور و شست لک دام که مطابق دوازده  
ماه چهار لک روپیه میشود عقرر گردید \*

Text, II, 108-109.

It is clear then that the Baglāna rulers had a mint of their own and that the principal item of currency was a coin which was equal in value to nine of the *tankas* current in Shāh Jahān's day. It is perhaps necessary to point out that this Shāh Jahānī *tanka* must have been a coin of the type of I.M.C. No. 1110 which weighs 610 grs. It is the *Tack* of Sir Thomas Herbert who was at Sūrāt in 1627-8 and who says that “twenty Tack make one Roopee.” (Travels, Ed. 1665, p. 67.) It is in fact the double dām. The coin struck by the Baglāna Rājas was equal in value to  $\frac{9}{10}$ ths of a Rupee which is practically identical with that of the Sūrāt Maḥmūdī, of which about 240 went to one hundred Imperial rupees, i.e. which was  $\frac{1}{10}$ ths of a rupee. Reduced to a common denominator the two coins represent the  $\frac{2}{3}$ th and  $\frac{5}{6}$ th parts of the Mughal rupee respectively.

It may be also noted that the revenue of the district was, after the conquest, fixed by Shāh Jahān at four laks of rupees or one krór and sixty laks of dāms. It is also stated that this amount was about half of what had been raised in former times. It must have therefore been about eight laks of rupees. But it is said that it was “twenty laks of the Tankas of that country.” But if twenty laks of those tankas were equal to eight laks of rupees, one such *tanka* must have been valued at  $\frac{4}{5}$ ths of a rupee which is again almost the same as the Sūrāt Maḥmūdī. Indeed, this was the ratio of the Maḥmūdī to the rupee in the books of the East India Company, in which the Maḥmūdī was reckoned at 12d and the Rupee

at 30*d* of English money. (Fryer, *New Account*, Ed. 1698. p. 205.) Now if the Rājas of Baglāna had a mint at Mulher and if their silver coins were worth, as the author of the *Bādishāhnāma* avers, about  $\frac{1}{10}$ ths of a rupee, and known as Mahmūdīs in Surat, one is naturally tempted to ask if these provincial mintages are not represented by the 'Coins of Gujarāt fabric.' There are, however, some difficulties in establishing the identity of the two. We are told that the Mahmūdīs were struck at Mulher so late as 1636 A.C. (1045 A.H.) and we know from Tavernier and Fryer that they were current in Sūrāt down at least to 1675 A.C. But the latest date on the 'Coins of Gujarāt fabric' is 1027 A.H. (1617 A.C.). It is true that the discovery of issues of later dates is not beyond the bounds of probability. It is also not at all unlikely that the date 1027 A.H. may, like the name of the Emperor whose titles are emblazoned on the reverse, have continued to be mechanically impressed on the subsequent mintages irrespective of the lapse of time. In this connection, it may be permissible to note, for what it is worth, the coincidence, most probably fortuitous, that Rāja Pratāp of Baglāna's last visit to the court of Jahāngir was paid and that he was given his *congee* and directed to send his son to court towards the beginning of that very year 1027 A.H. (*T'ūzuk*, Tr 1, 411.)

Again, if the Rāja of Baglāna was, as Khāfi Khān as well as the English factors of the East India Company, declare, permitted to coin money [صاحب سکه], in whose name did he do so?

Did he do it in his own or that of his then undoubted suzerain, the Mughal Emperor? Or lastly, did these mintages display like the korīs of the Jām of Nawānagar the style and titles of Muzaḥḥar III or those of the latter's real or putative father, Mahmūd III? To these questions, it is unfortunately impossible to give any answers in the total absence of the necessary evidence. Sir Thomas Herbert, it is true, states that "the Mammoody and Roopee are good silver, round, thick and (after the Saracenic sort who allow no Images) stamped with Arabick letters, importing the King and Mahomet" (*Travels* p. 46), and this may be construed to imply that the Mahmūdī known to him had the Kalima stamped on it and may be used as an argument in favour of identifying it with the 'Coins of Gujarāt fabric,' but it would be neither logical nor safe to interpret strictly and lay so much stress upon a casual and probably unguarded expression of a careless and ill-informed writer like Herbert. It would be equally hazardous to found anything on Breton's remark that the Mahmūdīs were 'none of the King's Coyne.' It may merely signify that they were struck, not in the Imperial Mint at Sūrāt, but in the Baglāna Rāja's mint of Mulher. But it may also have been meant to

convey that these coins did not display the name of the reigning Emperor, Shāh Jahān, but that of some other ruler. If that name is *supposed* to have been Akbar's, it would be an argument for contending that the designation Mahmūdī *was* applied to the coins of Gujarāt fabric *also*. But there is also no direct evidence militating against the supposition that the coins struck by the Rāja of Baglāna bore on their surfaces the style and titles of one or other of his former suzerains, the Sultāns of Gujarāt. We have seen both Abūl Fazl and Jahāngīr stating that the geographical situation of their territory compelled these petty chiefs to play off their powerful neighbours, the kings of Gujarāt and the Deccan, against one another and to seek the support of the other whenever one of them was inclined to "stretch out his hand to possess the kingdom." We know from the *Mirāt-i-Sikandarī* that when Bahādur Shāh of Gujarāt passed through Mulher with a view to invade the Deccan in A.H. 936, "Bahar Jīū Rājah of Baglānah also presented himself and did homage [*lil*. was admitted to the honour of kissing the carpet *دریافت بوسی*] \* \* \* and Bahar Jīū, in order to establish a connection with the Sultān [*بدالات* سعادت], by the guidance of his good fortune, gave in marriage to the Sultān one of his sisters. \* \* \* On the following day, in accordance with the wish of the Sultān, he gave another sister to Muhammad Khān Asirī [Bahādur Shāh's nephew, who was the ruler of Khāndesh]. When these matters were despatched, Sultān Bahādur pursued his march and leaving the country of the Rājah of Baglāna, he entered the territories of the Dakhin. On this occasion, he conferred on Baharjīū the title of Bahar Khān, and sent him thence with a detachment, to the fort of Chewal [Chaul of the Imp. Gaz. X. 184] to plunder the country around (*Op. cit*, Bayley's Trans. 344-5; Text, Bombay Lithograph, 1831 A.C., p. 241, l. 3.)":

<sup>1</sup> A poetical history of the Hindu Rājas of Baglāna has been recently published in the Gaekwad's Sanskrit Series. It is entitled 'Rāshtrāndha Vamsha Mahākāvya' and was composed in Shaka 1518 or 1596 A.C. by a southern poet named Rudrakavī. It would appear from this work that the then ruling chief was named Nārāyan Shāh, the son of *Bhairab* Shah, the son of Mahādeva, the great grandson of Nānadeva. This last is said to have restored the power and dignity of the family—the members of which pretended to be descended from Rāshtrāndha, the adopted son of a Rāja of Qanauj after the eclipse it had suffered in the reign of 'Alāu-d-dīn Khiljī.

There can be little doubt that *Bahirjī* or *Bharjiv* is a Persianised form of the name of *Bhairab Shāh* who is credited by the poet with having "conquered the Mussalman rulers of Mandu and Devagiri, and having inflicted a defeat on Humāyūn Shah the second Mogul Emperor." (*Indian Antiquary*, Vol. L, 1921, p. 180). As we know Bahirjī to have been a vassal of Bahādur Shāh of Gujarāt, we may fairly suppose this to be merely the poetic or panegyric way of saying that he had borne some part in that vainglorious Sultān's invasions of Malwā and the Deccan and the war with Humāyūn.

In the *Mirāt-i-Aḥmadī* also, the author of which has transcribed a detailed return of the revenues of the kingdom of Gujarāt in the reign of the last Muzaḥfar in 979 A.H. (1571 A.C.) from the books of Mūlchand the hereditary Record-keeper [سررشته‌دار] of the province, the Rāja of Baglāna is mentioned among the vassals or jāgirdārs of the State. "Bharji Zamīndār of Baglānah" we read in the list of jāgīrs, "held the forts of Mūlēr and Sālēr and maintained a service of three thousand horse

[با صد هزار سوار نوکری می‌کود] Bayley, *loc. cit.*, p. 14; Text, Bomb. Lith. 1306 A.H., Part I. p. 24, l. 6. In the circumstances, it is just possible that the Rāja of Baglāna may, like the Jām, have taken advantage of the feeble and disorganised condition of the Gujarāt Saltanat after the death of Bahādur Shāh, to open a mint in his own territory and have struck for his own profit, money bearing, as a mere matter of form, the name of the third Mahmūd or the last Muzaḥfar. Briefly, the arguments on either side are so inconclusive and evenly balanced that it is not easy to say anything positive as to the matter.

However that may have been, it is nearly certain that 'Mahmūdī' was, from very early times, the generic, as well as popular, designation of the silver coins of the Sultāns of Gujarāt. In a 'History of Gujarāt' written about 1595 A.C. by Abū Turāb Walī, there are three references to this denomination which throw some light on the point. In the first place, he tells us that when the Emperor Humāyūn distributed, after the storming of Champāner the treasures found there, among his soldiers and Amīrs, he gave to the father and uncle of the writer, one hundred and eighty thousand Mahmūdīs which would be equivalent to seventy-five thousand rupees."

از جمله قریب یک لک و هشتاد هزار محمودی که عبارتست از هفتاد و پنج هزار روپیہ بوالد و عم فقیر عذابت فرمودند \*

(Bibl. Indica Text, Ed. E. D. Ross, p. 27. l. 9.) If strictly interpreted this would mean that certain coins of the Gujarāt Saltanat were called 'Mahmūdīs' even in Bahādur Shāh's time and we must, in that case, conclude that they were so named after Mahmūd I. We know that Mahmūd II was only a child of six and reigned for less than two months and no coins of his are known (Bayley, *loc. cit.*, 327 Note; Taylor, B.B.R.A.S. Journal, 1903, p. 306). We are further informed that 1,80,000 of these Mahmūdīs were equivalent to 75,000 rupees. As the author was a courtier of Akbar's and died in 1003 A.H. (*Mirāt-i-Aḥmadī*, Bom. Lith. 1831, Part II, 41, l. 10) or 1005 A.H. (*Maāsiru-i-Umarā*, III, 285), we may safely suppose him to mean Akbari rupees. It must then be clear to the meanest intelligence that the ratio of this Mahmūdī to the Rupee was as 75 to 180,

or 5 to 12, which is practically identical with the value assigned to the Sūrat Mahmūdī in the books of the East India Company.

Let us now look at the matter in another way. The Akbari rupee contained about 178 grs of silver of a very high standard. If this Gujarāt Mahmūdī had been of equally good metal, it should have weighed about 74 grs. ( $1\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{3}{2} = 1\frac{1}{2}$ ). Now no silver coins of Mahmūd I of that weight are known, though we have several turning the scale at 33, 44, 57, 66, 88, and 176 grs. Those ranging from 88 to 80 grs. are however the commonest. Dr. Taylor had no less than thirty-one in his collection, and I have myself at least a score. Now Abūl Fazl tells us in a passage which has been cited elsewhere, that the Gujarāt Mahmūdīs and Muẓaffarīs were not remarkable for purity and were about 13 per cent below the Akbari standard (*Āin*, Tr. I, 23). But

$$100 : 88 :: 87 \text{ or } \frac{100}{100} \times \frac{87}{1} \times \frac{1}{1} = \frac{8700}{100} = 87 \text{ grs.}$$

It follows that the pure contents of the Gujarāt Coin must have been about 76 grs. which is very near the first result. (74.2 grs.)

Mahmūdīs are mentioned by this author in two other passages, which though less instructive, leave little room for doubt that the monetary denomination referred to in them is the coin of that name struck by the Sultāns of Gujarāt. For instance, we are told that during his second visit to Ahmadābād in 981 A.H., Akbar personally investigated the charge of extorting 12,000 Mahmūdīs from Miyān Sayyadjīu Bukhārī which Mirzā 'Azīz Koka had preferred against Shaikh Muẓaffar the Sadr (Lord Almoner) of the Province. (Abū Turāb, *loc. cit.*, 88, l. 16.) As this event occurred in the year 981 A.H. the coins in question must have been the issues of the independent rulers of the province.

Lastly, we are informed that A'tabāru-l-mulk [a Gujarāt noble] had sent 10,000 Mahmūdīs to Nannū [i.e. the deposed Sultān Muẓaffar III], who was then in hiding at Khorī or Kherdī in Kāṭṭyāwār] and Sher, Khān Faulādi for expenses. (*Ibid.*, 103, l. 2.)

From these notices it is also clear that the silver mintages of the descendants of Ahmad Shāh remained in circulation even after the conquest of the province and were called Mahmūdīs.

As the primary object of these studies is to extract and bring together under one view all references in the chronicles to matters of numismatic interest, it is necessary, if only for the sake of completeness, to set out some other monetary statements in which this coin-denomination obtrudes itself.

The author of the *Tabaqāt-i-Akbarī* writes in his account of the 29th year of Akbar's reign [A.H. 992, A.C. 1584].

"After his second defeat, Muẓaffar Gujarātī retreated \* \* \* to the country of Sūrath [i.e., Kāṭṭyāwār] and rested

at the town of Gondal, twelve *kos* from the fort of Junāgarh. \* \* \* He gave a lac of Mahmūdīs and a jewelled dagger to Amīn Khān Ghori ruler of Sūrath, and so won his support. He gave a similar sum to Jām Marsāl [*recte*, Satarsāl] rāja of Jhālāwār, who was at the head of a body of troops and clansmen." Elliot and Dowson, V, 437-8. Lakhnau Lith. 360.

The facts are mentioned also by Badāoni (Lowe's Tr. II, 370; Text, II, 358), Abūl Fazl (Akbar-nāma, Tr. III, 681; Text, III, 453) and the author of the *Mirāt-i-Sikandarī*. (Fazl Lutfullah's Trans. 321; Text, 446, l. 11), the last of whom adds that Amīn Khān took the money but did not give him any assistance.

I must now set out another passage in which the Emperor Jahāngīr speaks of the type of coin, denominated 'Mammoody of Surat, by the European travellers. In his account of Shāh Jahān's rebellion (1623 A.C.) we are informed that one of that Prince's adherents, to whom the Diarist gives the opprobrious name of L'anatu-llah ['Malediction-of-Allah-upon-him'] hastened from Baroda to Broach. "The sons of Himmat Khān were in the fort there. Although they did not admit him, yet they sent him 5,000 Mahmūdīs by way of maintenance. For three days he remained outside the fort of Broach \* \* \* and on the fourth went to Sūrath by sea \* \* \* As Sūrath was in Bi-daulat's [i.e. Shāh Jahān's] jāgīr, he took nearly 4 lakhs of Mahmūdīs from his officials there, and took possession of whatever he could by oppression and injustice." (*Tūzūk*, Trans. II, 267.)

But in the following excerpt from the *Bādishāhnāma*, the term is applied to a very different sort of coin by the author who wrote about 1650 A.C. That coin is the *korī* of the Jām of Nawānagar and the passage is the real source of the statement from the *Mirāt-i-Ahmadi* which Mr. Master has advanced in support of his thesis and to which he seems to me to have attached greater significance than it deserves. 'Abdul Hamīd Lāhori writes:—

"And as during the Subadārī of A'azam Khān, the Zemīndār called the Jām had not observed those canons of obedience which Zemīndārs are bound to, the aforesaid Khān marched to chastise him. And when he arrived within seven koss of Nawānagar \* \* \* the Jām took to the road of submission and having acknowledged his past offences left Nawānagar for seeking an interview with the Subadār \* \* \* A'azam Khān sent him word that until he promised to pay a fixed tribute and closed the mint at Nawānagar which was the centre of his territory and in which he was coining Mahmūdīs, he would not be pardoned. The aforesaid Zemīndār finding submission unavoidable, consented to give 100 Kachhi horses, to pay three laks of Mahmūdīs as tribute and to shut up [بر انداختن lit. overthrow] his mint." (*Op. cit.*, II, 231-232.)



The opening lines of the passage cited by Mr. Master from the *Mirāt-i-Ahmadī* have been merely copied by the later author from the work of this contemporary chronicler. The fact of the matter is that the extract from the *Mirāt* really consists of three parts of varying degrees of clarity and historical value. The first three sentences, from 'As the Jām' up to 'Mint', are, as I have said, not the author's own, but borrowed from 'Abdul Hamīd. But the statements made therein are, for that very reason, entitled to the highest credit. They undoubtedly prove that the Nawānagar Kori was called 'Mahmūdī' in 1050 A.H. But it does not therefore follow that it was the original or archetypal Mahmūdī, and there is nothing in the statement to warrant Mr. Master's conclusion as to its exclusive or real right to the name. The large amount of the tribute certainly shows that it was extensively current in or round about Jāmnagar and Jūnāghadh, but this can hardly be adduced as evidence of its having being the "standard currency" in Sūrat and Broach.

The seven sentences which follow, from 'It is quite' up to 'Rupee', are an interpolation for which the author of the *Mirāt* is himself responsible. A glance at the original shows that it is very loosely and obscurely worded. We are told that the operations of the Jām's mint were suspended only for a time, that the coining of Mahmūdīs was resumed at some unspecified date, that coins bearing the name of Sultān Muzaḥḥar were struck by the Jām, and that the new or later type [سکه جدید] of the Nawānagar Kori was called *Jāmī* because it bore "the name of the Jām on one side in Hindi". The mention of this hybrid type of Muzaḥḥar's money reminds him of the real or "original" Mahmūdī and he informs us that this *Gujarāt Māhmūdī* was also called Changīzi in the Zilla of Baroda, in former times. "In that Zilla", he continues, the currency, trade transactions and valuation of tribute \* \* \* are in that coin." It is permissible to question the literal accuracy of this statement without further proof. Are we to believe that the prevalent metallic currency of Baroda, so late as 1756 A.C. was the Nawānagar Kori or even the *Gujarāt Saḥṇat-Māhmūdī*? "Old currency is apt," I admit, "to linger long "in the backwaters" of a province, but there are no grounds for supposing Baroda to have been at this time a backwater of Gujarāt. At any rate, it is extremely hazardous to accept without extraneous corroboration from independent sources—and none is, to my knowledge, at least, forthcoming—a statement of this extraordinary character. As for the other supposition, implying that the Nawānagar Kori was the standard currency of Baroda in the latter half of the 18th century, it seems to me unthinkable, and hardly deserving of serious discussion in the absence of something more positive than a casual statement of this character.

It should be remembered that the *Mirāt-i-Aḥmadī* has never been carefully edited and the lithographed text as well as all the manuscripts I have seen are full of palpable errors and demonstrably corrupt. It may be permissible therefore to suggest that what the author really wrote or meant to write was that this *Changīzī*, i.e. Muzaffar III's coin—(not the Nawānagar Kori) *had been*, at some former time, though not in his own, "current in trade transactions, valuations of tribute, etc." In other words, است is probably an error for بود and the verb should be in the past, not present tense. The statement about the employment of this Mahmūdī-Changīzī as a "coin of account" in Aḥmadābād in the author's day is not so unlikely to be true. There is nothing intrinsically improbable about it. The last two sentences are matters of common knowledge and invite no comment. We then come to the third and concluding portion of the paragraph. After interjecting these somewhat irrelevant remarks about his own times, the author suddenly harks back to those of Shāh Jahān I and informs his readers that a mint had been established at Junāgadh for the melting of Mahmūdīs, but as the object was, for a reason which is very obscurely expressed, not fulfilled, Mīr Sābir, the Diwān of the Sūba had the mint of Junāgadh suspended by special Imperial Farmān. As the authority for this item of information is not stated, it is impossible to trace it to its source. It is certainly not taken from the *Bādishāhnāma*. But there are fairly good *Numismatic* grounds for challenging its accuracy. Now, Mīr Sābir was, according to the author himself, appointed Diwān of the Sūba in 1048 A.H. (Bombay Lith. I, 223, l. 4) and remained in office up to 1st Rab'ī I, 1053 A.H. (*Ibid.*, 230, ll. 4-6.) The earliest known coins of the Junāgadh Mint are of 1049-13 (H. N. Wright, I.M. Catalogue, III, Introd. liv) and issues of 1050-14 (*Ibid.*, No. 955) 1051-14 (White King Catalogue, Part III, No. 3810), 1052, 1054, 1057, 1059, 1060, 1062, A.H. are also known. There would thus appear to be very good reasons for declining to accept unreservedly this part of the author's statement. Briefly, it seems to me that this *Mirāt* passage carries us much less further towards the solution of the question at issue than has been supposed and leaves us practically just where we were.

This is all that I can say at present about the matter and it is of course exceedingly unsatisfactory. But I must, before leaving the subject, beg permission to record the impression that the problem will be solved only when a coin or coins of the Gujarāt-fabric type with the Hindi legend at the bottom clearly decipherable is found. I may say that such a coin *was* brought to me by a local dealer several years ago and that, to the best of my recollection, the words in Devanāgarī were 'Shrī Fardī or Bhardī Rāi'. I cannot say if this was intended to be a transliteration of the titular

designation—Bharji—of the Hindū rulers of Baglāna. Unfortunately, I was not then able to realise the full value of my find, and it must be left to some more lucky or competent connoisseur to secure the prize which I allowed to slip out of my hands.

## IX. MINT REGULATIONS.

The Mughal mintages in gold as well as silver were all hammered and not milled, and they also contained, as I have shown in detail elsewhere, a much smaller proportion of alloy than either the English sovereign or the British Indian rupee. But they were, for these very reasons, much sooner worn and more liable to clipping or 'sweating.' "Unprincipled men," Abūl Fazl complains, "cause a great deal of mischief by rubbing down the coin, or by employing similar methods; and in consequence of the damage done to the nation at large, His Majesty continually consults experienced men \* \* \* and issues new regulations in order to prevent such detrimental practices." (*Āin*, Tr. I. 32.) The historian then proceeds to give at great length the conflicting orders which had been passed by Akbar's finance ministers, in the 27th, 29th, 31st, 34th, and 36th years of the reign. I do not propose to swell out my pages with these out-of-date and tedious minutiae, especially as they can be read by any one fond of such studies in Blochmann's excellent version. It will suffice to cite the most salient features of the ordinance promulgated by Shāh Fath-ulla Shīrāzī (otherwise styled 'Azdu-d-daula) in the 29th year Ilāhī. We are informed that on the 18th of Mihr of that year "a royal order was issued that on the *muhrs*, as far as *three* grains, and on the rupees as far as six grains [these are not Troy grains but rice-grains of which 8 or 10 went to a *surkh* or *ratī*] short weight, no account should be taken, but that they should be reckoned of full weight. If *muhrs* were still less, they should make a deduction for the deficiency, \* \* \* The value of a *muhr* that was one *surkh* deficient, was put down as 355 *dāms* and a fraction; and hence they valued the price of one *surkh* of coined gold at the low rate of four *dāms* and a fraction. \* \* \* 'Azadu-d-daulah also \* \* \* fixed the value of the round rupee, when of full weight or not less than one *surkh*, at forty *dāms*; \* \* and deducted for a deficiency of two *surkhs* [not two *dāms* as Todar Mal had done, but] only one *dām* and a fraction (*Āin*, Tr. I, 33-4). See also Badāonī, Tr. II. 393; *Akbarnāma*, Trans. III. 564-5.

There is in the same work another long chapter with the heading, "The Profit of the dealers in gold and silver." It occupies nearly two pages and it would be waste of time and space to reproduce its tiresome details in this article. Its "leading results," besides, have been already extracted and presented in tabular form by Edward Thomas, in the *Chronicles* (pp. 426-7.) The gist of this lengthy disquisition is that the Mughal system was a system of "free coinage" in all the

metals. Any individual was at liberty to bring gold, silver, or copper to the mint, where it was brought up to the Imperial standard of purity and converted into coin on the owner defraying the actual cost of coinage and paying to the State a small royalty or seigniorage. This seigniorage will be found, by any one who analyses the figures, to have been about 5½ per cent all round on the value of the metal.

It may be permissible to add that there is in this chapter a casual mention of the Dehli Tanka which was worth two dāms or the twentieth part of the Akbari rupee. As the passage itself has been cited and discussed in my article on the 'Murāḍī Tanka' in Num. Supp. XXVIII (pp. 89-90), it is hardly necessary to do more than refer to the matter in this paper.

The late Mr. W. Irvine published in the Proceedings of the Asiatic Society of Bengal in 1898 some mint-rules, of the time of Farrukhsiyar (d. 1126 A.H.) which he had found in a small work of only nineteen folios called *Hidāyat-u-l-qavā'id*. Unfortunately, there is nothing particularly interesting or informative in them. (*Loc. cit.*, pp. 149-52.)

Some useful details relative to the working of the numerous Central India mints towards the beginning of the nineteenth century will be found in Sir John Malcolm's 'Central India.' (Reprint, 1880, Vol. II, 65-70.)

## X. THE HEAVY COINS OF JAHĀNGĪR.

The mintages of the first six years of the reign of Jahāngīr present several distinctive features which have arrested the attention of coin-collectors. The extraordinary method of dating adopted on the Salīmī issues has been satisfactorily elucidated by Dr. Taylor, but the metrology of the 'Heavy' Muhrs and Rupees which turn the scale at about 202 or 210 grains and 212 or 221 grains has, to my knowledge, never been clearly expounded by those who have discussed the subject.

There are two references to these abnormal issues in the Emperor's own 'Memoirs,' but their real meaning has been obscured by the errors of copyists. They are, when properly construed and commented on, most illuminating, and will be found quoted below in the original Persian as well as in their English garb.

After mentioning the Twelve Institutes or Rules of Conduct (دستور العمل) which he promulgated immediately after his accession for the guidance of his officers, he says :—

و بساعتِ سعید فرمودم که سکه بر زر زدند و از طلا و نقره بوزنهای  
مختلف زر را مسکوک نموده و هریک را جداگانه نامی نهادم ... و مهر  
یک توله را نور جهانی و نصف آنرا نوالی و ربع آنرا رواجی نام کردم و آنچه از  
جنسی نقره سکه شد ... یک توله را جهانگیر و نصفش را سلطانی  
و ربع آنرا نثاری و دهم حصه را خیر قبول نامزد گردانیدم ... و سکه  
نور جهانی که بموضی مهر معمول است و در وزن ده دوازده بر آن این بیت  
امیر الامرا قرار گرفت \*

روی زر را ساخت ندرانی برنگِ مهر و ماه  
شاه نور الدین جهانگیر ابن اکبر بادشاه

1 "The *Dastūru-l-'Amal* is a body of instructions and tables for the use of native revenue officers under the Mahomedan Government." (Jarrett, *Ain*, Trans. II, 89 n. See also Elliot, Supplemental Glossary, Ed. Beames, II, 156). The '*Government Gazette*' issued every month in the feudatory State of Junāgadh is still called *Dastūru-l-'Amal*. According to Steingass, *Dastūr* means 'original of a book, record, formula, or any writing of authority to which people have recourse.' (Persian-English Dict. s.v.)

چنانچه بر هر روی یک مصراع نقش گشت و قید ضرب مقام و سنه  
هجری و سنه جلوس شد مکه جهانگیری نیز که در وزن ده دوازده زیاده است  
در برابر روپیه اعتبار شده بدستور نور جهانی مقرر گشت و وزن توله مطابق  
دو نیم مثقال معمول ایران و توران است

*Tūzuk-i-Jahāngīrī*, ed. Sayyad Ahmad Khān, Aligarh  
1864, p. 5, l. 8.

This is thus rendered by Mr. A. Rogers:—

“At a propitious hour I ordered that they should coin gold and silver of different weights. To each coin I gave a separate name; \* \* \* to the Muhr of 1 tola, that of *Nūr-jahānī*. The half of this I called *Nurānī*, and the quarter, *rawājī*. With regard to the silver coins (*sikkas*) I gave to the coin of \* \* \* 1 tola, the name of *jahāngīrī*, the half *jahāngīrī* I called *Sultānī*; the quarter, *Nisārī* (showering-money); the dime *Khair-i-jabūl* (the acceptable).<sup>1</sup> \* \* \* On the *Nur-jahānī*, which is in the place of the ordinary gold *Muhr* and exceeds it in weight by 20 per cent (as 12 to 10) is impressed this couplet of the Amīru-l-umārā [Sharif Khān]:

Shāh Nūru-d-dīn Jahāngīr ibn Akbar Pādshāh.

Made gold's face bright with the sheen of sun and moon. Accordingly, a hemistich was impressed on each face, and also the mint, and the Hijra and regnal year. The *jahāngīrī sikka*, also, which is greater in weight by 20 per cent, was reckoned as equal to a rupee, its weight being fixed in the same manner as that of the *Nūr-jahānī* (each was a tola in weight, but one was in gold and the other was in silver). The weight of a tola is 2½ misqāls of Persia and Turān.

*Op. cit.*, Trans. Rogers and Beveridge, I, 11–12.

The sum and substance of this is that, on coming to the throne, Jahāngīr gave new names to the gold and silver coins of the realm and that he issued orders for the striking of a Muhr called *Nūr-jahānī* which was twenty per cent heavier than the ordinary Muhr [مهر معمول] and also of a silver coin called the *Sikka-i-Jahāngīrī* (not *Rupīya-i-Jahāngīrī*) which was greater in weight by 20 per cent than the Akbarī Rupee. When Mr. Rogers makes his author say that the heavier coin “was reckoned equal to a rupee,” we must take leave to doubt the accuracy of his rendering. If the standard of silver in both was the same—and the Emperor does not say anything to the contrary—it is impossible to understand how coins of such different weights could have been ‘reckoned equal’, that is, have had the same exchange-value. Jahāngīr was not a

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Whitehead's rendering, ‘May these alms be accepted (by God)’ P.M.C. Introd. xxv, is much better.

ruler endowed with extraordinary ability or knowledge, but he must have known that two pieces of *equally good silver* could not, by any legislative sanction, be made to possess parity of value, if one of them was one-fifth heavier than the other. He could scarcely have meant to say any such thing, and on turning to the original, we find that the translator has misunderstood his author. All that the Emperor really says is that "the *Sikka-i-jahāngīrī* (the new silver piece) became current or acquired vogue [ اعتبار شده ] in place of [ برابر ] the Rupee" [ روپیه ]. All that he means is that the new *sikka* bore the same relation to the old rupee and supplanted it as the *Nūrjahānī* Muhr bore to the old or Ordinary Muhr of which it was the substitute [ که بعرض مهر معمول است ]. The fact of the matter was, and there is abundant proof of it forthcoming from contemporary documents of unimpeachable authority, that these *Jahāngīrī Sikkas* were not "reckoned equal" to the old rupees but that five of the heavier rupees were generally worth six of the Akbari rupees. This is just the ratio we should expect and is in exact accordance with the difference in weight.

The Emperor then quotes the *ipsissima verba* of the metrical legend composed especially for these new issues by his friend and Vazīr, the Amīru-l-umarā. It will be noticed that this is identical with the couplet found on some of the 'heavy' muhrs and rupees in our public and private collections. (R.M.C. 290, 292-4, 402, I.M.C. 588, 589, 697, 698, 699; P.M.C. 911, 914-916; Lucknow M.C. 1196, 1305, 1482, 1547, etc.)

The second reference is in the Diary of the sixth year of the reign and is thus worded in (Sir) Sayyad Ahmad's edition.

هنگام جلوس بروزنها و گزها پارۀ افزوده بودم چنانچه سه رتی بروزن مهر و روپیه اضافه شده بود درون ایام بعرض رسید که در داد و ستدها رفاهیت خلق در آنست که مهر و روپیه بوزن سابق باشد چون در جمیع امور رفاهیت و آسایش خلق منظور است حکم کردم که از تاریخ حال که یازدهم اردی بهشت سنه ۶ جلوس باشد در دار الضربهای ممالک معروضه مهر و روپیه را بدستور سابق مسکوک و مضروب میساخته باشند \*

Text, 96, l. 1.

Mr. Rogers' rendering is as follows:—

"At the time of my accession, I had increased weights and measures (lit. *gaz*), viz. to the extent of three rattis (small weights equal to eight barley-corns) in the weight of muhrs and rupees. At this time, it was represented to me that in mercantile transactions it would be for the convenience of the



people that muhrs and rupees should be of the same weight as previously. As in all affairs the contentment and ease of the people are to be looked to, I gave an order that from the present day, that is, the 11th Urdibihisht in the 6th year of my reign, they should strike muhrs and rupees of the former weight in all the mints of my dominions." *Ibid.*, Trans. I, 197.

There is something palpably wrong in the first sentence of this extract. We have just found the writer declaring that in the first year of his reign he had made the new muhrs and rupees 20 per cent heavier than the ordinary coins of that name. And now he is made to assert that the increase per unit amounted to only three ratīs (سه رتی). The two statements are obviously irreconcilable. The maximum or theoretical weight of the ordinary muhr was, Abūl Fazl tells us, 11 māshas = 88 ratīs; the issue weight of the rupee was  $11\frac{1}{2}$  māshas or 92 ratīs; 20 per cent of 88 ratīs = 17.6 ratīs; 20 p.c. of 92 ratīs = 18.4 ratīs.

It is now more than twenty-five years since C. J. Rodgers called attention to the difficulty in an article in the *Proceedings of the Asiatic Society of Bengal*, in which he cited this "exceedingly valuable passage." At the same time, he candidly said that he did not know what to make of it. "Three ratīs," he wrote, "is an ordinary variation in rupees from wear and tear, as can be seen from a casual glance at any Coin Catalogue, and such a small amount would inconvenience nobody. The word for 3 in Persian is سه. I propose to change it to سی or 30. I find that 30 rati seeds gathered by me on the field of Kūrūkshetra weigh 44 grains, and 44 is the difference between 176 and 220. I find, however, that 30 rati seeds gathered by me at Nūrpūr in the Kāngra District weigh 54 grains, so that we must know what kind of ratīs were in use in Āgra, where probably Jahāngīr held his court. Suppose we alter the word *rati* to *māsha*, then three *māsha* are equal to 24 ratīs. Now, 24 Nūrpūr ratīs draw exactly 44 grains. \* \* \* I think the word should be *māsha*, and not *rati*. Ratīs are never used for weighing things that are a *māsha* in weight, only for weighing fractional parts of the *māsha*. Both methods of correcting the text agree with the weights of rupees in our collections. \* \* \* The difference in the weights of the mohurs is not the same as the difference in the rupees,  $210 - 168 = 42$  grains. It is, however, near enough. Some of the early mohurs were only 202 grains. As those in the Lahore Museum are as fresh as if they had come from the mint yesterday, we may say that that was their original weight. Afterwards they rose to 210 grains." *Proceedings of the Asiatic Society of Bengal*, 1894, p. 91.

It may be truly said that Rodgers has stated the problem with considerable clarity of expression, though he failed to solve it. Why was the difference in the weights of the muhrs not the same as the difference in the rupees? Why did the early muhrs and rupees weigh only 202 and 212 grs. respectively and the later coins 212 and 220 grs.? Is it not possible to find a clue to these successive augmentations?

These questions, it is the object of this paper to answer.

The textual difficulty has been solved by Mr. H. Beveridge in the light of the excellent India Office MSS. of the *Tūzūk*. The numismatic problem did not appeal to him and he has not cared to attack it. He writes in a Note:—

“The I.O. MSS. have a different reading here. They say nothing about *three ratīs*. What they say is, ‘At this time, I had made some increase in the amounts of weights and measures. For instance, I added one-fourth (*Siwā’ī*) to the weight of the muhrs and rupees. The *sih ratī* of text is a mistake for *siwā’ī*.’”

Rogers and Beveridge, Trans. I, 450 (Errata and Addenda).

There can be little doubt that this is the true reading, and that *سوائی* was the word that the Imperial recorder of his own innovation wrote. The increment referred to had not been *سوائی* or *سوائی* or *سوائی* but *سوائی* i.e. an addition of 25 per cent had been made *some time before the date of writing* (i.e. VI R.Y.) in the weight of the muhr and rupee.

Thus understood, there is an apparent difficulty in the passage which demands notice. Jahāngīr tells us in the first of our quotations that the increase was of only 20 per cent, and now we are informed that it was not 20 but 25 per cent. The discrepancy is, obvious, but the two statements, are, for all that, not irreconcilable. The explanation is that the *Far-mān*, for raising the weight by 20 per cent only, was promulgated immediately after the accession, and it is this increase that is recorded in our first quotation. Sometime afterwards, a further addition of 5 per cent was sanctioned and it is this subsequent or later augmentation of 25 (20 + 5) per cent which is alluded to in the second extract. The imperial autobiographer has, with characteristic indifference to precision of statement,<sup>2</sup> omitted to record *when* this second increment was first

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Beveridge does not seem to have been aware of Hawkins' statement on the subject, which is hereafter cited. It is absolutely conclusive on the point, and must extinguish the last sparks of doubt in reference to the proposed emendation.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Beveridge complains in his Notes to the English Translation of the *Tūzūk* that Jahāngīr is often obscure (I, 54, 55, 60, 126, 241, 275, 353, 387, 403, 442; II, 108, 116, 122, 178, 241) or inaccurate (I, 9, 19, 77, 232, 280, 307, 324, 418; II, 58, 185, 228). He stands charged also

introduced. He refers to it now, only in a casual way, while mentioning the reasons which led him to withdraw the new issues of both types, and revert to the standard established by his father.

In a word, the two passages do not speak of one and the same type of 'Heavy Coins,' but of two distinct and easily distinguishable types. The first passage relates to the muhrs weighing between 200 and 202 grains, and the rupees which turn the scale at 210-212 grains. They are the coins which were one-fifth heavier than the similar issues of Akbar. The ordinary muhr of Akbar was *about* 170 grains;  $\frac{1}{5}$  of 170 = 34, and  $170 + 34 = 204$  grs. The ordinary rupee of Akbar weighed, *approximately*, 178 grs.<sup>1</sup>;  $\frac{1}{5}$  of 178 =  $35\frac{3}{5}$  and  $178 + 35\frac{3}{5} = 213\frac{3}{5}$  grs.

The gold-pieces of Jahāngīr which draw 210 and 211 grs. and the silver coins which mount up to 220 and even 221 grains are the issues referred to in the *second* extract. They are the coins which were one-fourth (*Sawā'ī*) heavier;  $170 + (170 \div \frac{1}{4}) = 170 + 42\frac{1}{2} = 212\frac{1}{2}$  grs.;  $178 + (178 \div \frac{1}{4}) = 178 + 44\frac{1}{2} = 222\frac{1}{2}$  grs.

Briefly, there is nothing arbitrary or lawless about the metrology of these pieces. The variations are methodical and systematic and the weights of all the four kinds of coins become perfectly intelligible in the light of this explanation. That explanation may be safely relied upon as it is founded on the statements of the Emperor himself. The true meaning of these statements have, it is true, been for various reasons obscured, but the veil has now fallen. The two types of coins can be now unmistakably differentiated. They belong to two distinct periods and represent two different augmentations of 20 and 25 p.c. respectively.

There is in the Journal of William Hawkins, a passage which shows that he was cognizant of the distinction and had formed very clear notions of the differences between the two types. The Captain landed at Surat on 24th August, 1608

with the suppression of facts (I, 155, 174, 192; II, 108). The translator further points out that there are frequent errors even in the serial reckoning of the Week-days. (I, 139, 340, 403; II, 47, 53, 60, 192) and that the Imperial arithmetician often commits mistakes in the addition and multiplication of numbers. (I, 96, 408).

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Lane Poole (B.M.C. Introd. lxxvi); Mr. Brown (L.M.C. I, 40) and some other writers have postulated for the common Akbari Muhr a theoretical or issue weight of 170 grs. and for the Rupee one of 180 grs. But there is a difficulty in accepting the latter view. Abūl Fazl says that the mint standard of the Muhr was 11 māshas and that of the Rupee 11½. If then the Muhr is supposed to have weighed 170 grs. and the Rupee 180, the half-māsha would have to be taken at 10 grs. the whole māsha at 20 and the tola at 240 grs.—an absolutely inadmissible proposition.

A.C., and left soon after for Āgra, where the Emperor then was in residence. He stayed there up to November, 1611 (Ramzān, 1020 A.H.), when he turned his face homewards, got on board Sir H. Middleton's ship in January, 1612, and died on the passage from the Cape.

He appears to have procured from a source which he does not specify, an account of the Treasure of Jahāngīr. After mentioning at some length, the different kinds of phenomenal pieces in both metals of which this treasure principally consisted, he says :—

“Of a certaine money that is called *Sāvoy*<sup>1</sup> which is a Tola  $\frac{1}{4}$ . Of these there are two leckes. Of *Sagaries*, whereof five make six toles, there is one lecke. More should have been coyned of this stampe, but the contrary was commanded.” The Hawkins' Voyages, ed. C. R. Markham, 1878 (Hakluyt Society), pp. 421-2.

There cannot be any difficulty in identifying the silver money called “*Savoy* which is a tola  $\frac{1}{4}$ ” with the *Sawā'ī* rupees alluded to in the second of the two passages from the *Tūzūk*. Hawkins was in Āgra during almost the whole period in which they would seem to have been issued, and he left the capital about six months after they ceased to be struck [Ardibihisht VI R.Y. = April-May, 1611 A.C.]. It may be also said with confidence that the ‘*Sagaries* whereof five make sixe toles’ are the Jahāngīrī Sikka of the first extract,<sup>2</sup> which were only 20 per cent or one-fifth heavier than the Akbarī rupees. He says that ‘More should have been coyned of this stampe, but the contrary was commanded,’ which is perfectly correct, for they were superseded about the fourth year of the reign—as will presently appear—by the still heavier coins of the *Sawā'ī* scale of weight.

But there are several other references to both these types of Rupees in the contemporary European travellers and the

<sup>1</sup> *Sawā'ī*, *lit.* ‘one and a quarter’, from *Sa*=with and *pā*=one-fourth (Belsare, Gujarati-English Dictionary, s.v.) The word occurs frequently in the Correspondence edited by Mr. William Foster in the analogous sense of ‘a discount, abatement or allowance of 25 per cent made in the weight or price of goods, English Factories in India 1618-1621, pp. 194, 204, 253. The spelling in all these passages is almost the same as that of Hawkins, ‘*Savoye*.’

<sup>2</sup> Hawkins got on board Sir Henry Middleton's ship in January, 1612 and sailed to Bantam. He died on the passage from the Cape. His Journal was made up from his papers and published after his death in England. The Oriental words and names were sadly blundered by the English printers of the 17th century, and some of the worst of these errors are unfortunately retained and passed over without correction in the Hakluyt Society's edition. Thus we find ‘*Vybeek*’ for ‘*Uzbek*’ (p. 419), ‘*Vinera*’ for ‘*Umra*’ (p. 419), ‘*Trasses*’ for ‘*farrashes*’ (p. 420) ‘*Attabase*’ for ‘*Allabas*’ (p. 427), ‘*Arauna*’ for ‘*Rana*’ (p. 427). There is therefore nothing to be surprised at in the transformation of *Jangeries* into *Sagaries*.

correspondence of the English East India Company. The earliest is of the year 1615.

Thomas Mitford writes from Ajmer to his masters in London, 25 March, 1615, as follows:—

“Of valuations of moneys there be divers sorts, but those most in use, viz. Roupies Jangers of 100 pisas which goeth four for five ordinary roupies called Cassanes, and we value them at 2s. 4d. per piece.

Cecaus [Sikkas] of Amdavars [Aḥmadābād] which goeth for 86 pisas, *challenges* [chalan] of Agra which goeth for 83 pisas, and divers other sorts, but by reason that Jangers and Cassanes [khazāna] are most used, we do keep our valuation, as is above said, they being net, having the Dusturye taken out of them which is a custom of this country.”

Letters Received by the English East India Company, ed. W. Foster, III, 87.

It is clear that Mitford's 'Jangers' [Jahāngīris] which went 'four for five ordinary roupies' and were worth '100 pisas' <sup>2</sup> [half-dāms] were the 'Savoy' of Hawkins—the rupees of the second or heavier type. The ordinary rupees he calls Khazānas—because they were generally two or three years or more old and were brought out on emergencies from the Treasury. The sikkas or new rupees of the current year of the Aḥmadābād mint were worth three pice or half-dāms more than the *chalanis* of Agra—the ordinary coins which were up to the average in weight and standard. If they were debased, clipped, sweated or otherwise doctored, an *agio*, *das-tūri* or *batta* (Guj. Vatāv) had to be paid.

My next quotation is from Sir Thomas Roe's Journal. "November 25 [1616]. Hither came Master Gowther from the carauan despatched from Agra, of whom I received that the Plauge <sup>3</sup> was violent, and that the last bills were made up

<sup>1</sup> "Dusturye—that commission or percentage on the money passing in any cash transaction which \* \* \* sticks to the fingers of the agent o payment." (Yule and Burnell, *Hobson-Jobson s.v.*). Here, however, it seems to be used for the customary *agio* or *Batta* [Vatāv] or discount on coins not current or of short weight. (See *ibid. s.v. Batta*). One of the many meanings of *Dastūr* is 'Custom' and *Dastūri* is any "customary fee, tax or percentage" (*Steingass, s.v.*) or perquisite claimable by established usage.

<sup>2</sup> The word is here used for the half-dām. European writers of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries sometimes employ it for the whole dām, at others for its moiety. When William Peyton says (*Purchas I, 530*, or Foster, *Letters Received, III, 301*), that the pice was "a Copper Coyne" which weighed "twelve Drammes" [avoidsupois], he means the full dām. But when Fryer declares that the [English East India Company's accounts are kept in Book-rate Pice, viz. 32 to the Mam[ood]ee] and 80 Pice to the Rupee" (*New Account, Ed. Crooke. II. 126*), he has in his mind the half-dām.

<sup>3</sup> Jahāngir tells us that this plague broke out in the tenth year of his reign (March 1615-6 A.C.) in the Panjāb and spread to Sahrind and

to be paid at 45 days' sight, so that they were enforced, for dispatch, to give so many *Jangiers* for their own money."

Embassy, Ed. W. Foster, II, 352.

Once more he writes on 18 December, 1617: "He [Fettiplace] urdgeth keeping credit so pressively, and it is of such consequence to us, that I have sould the great Pearle for 12000 *rupees*, without abatement to bee paid 10000 *Jangeries* in Agra; which mony I have made up." *Ibid*, II, 456.

Now if 10,000 *Jangeries* [Jahāngīris] were equal to 12,000 common or "Khazāna *rupees*, i.e. the ordinary currency at Aḥmadābād," as Mr. Foster puts it (*ibid.*, Note), it is clear that five Jahāngīris were equal to six common *rupees*. Elsewhere, Roe estimates this Jahāngīri *rupee* at 2s. 7d. (Original Correspondence No. 610, *apud* Foster, *ibid.*, II, 352, Note), while the ordinary *rupee* is calculated at 2s. 2d. of English money. (*Ibid.*, I, 239.) This gives a ratio of 31 : 26 which is practically identical with that of 6 to 5.

There is another allusion also to these *rupees* in Roe's unpublished Accounts, from which it appears that on a certain occasion when the Mogul (i.e. Jahāngīr) presented him with a 'cupp of Gold of mingled wyne,' he was obliged to give "to the King's wayters of the Guzellehan" [Ghusal khāna] 36 Jahāngīri *rupees*. (*Ibid.*, I, 256 and II, 335, Note.)

Robert Hughes writes from Āgra to the East India Company on 18th December, 1617, that he had paid "11½ Jahanger ruppes per camel to carry nine maunds [of indigo] to Surat [from Āgra], and to arrive there in fifty days."

Foster, Letters Received, VI, 238.

William "Biddulph, in a letter to the Company, dated February 15th, 1618, values the Jahangir *rupee* at 2s. 6d." Foster, Embassy of Sir Thomas Roe, II, 352, Note.

More than six years afterwards (26 October, 1624), the Lāhor factors write thus to the President and Council of Surat.

"On the 17th inst. sent a Setonbaratt<sup>2</sup> to Agra for rupies

Dehli. (*Tūzuk*, Tr. I, 330.) In the twelfth year, it had taken firm hold of the Country (I, 442) and was at its height in Āgra in the 13th 1618-9 A.C.) II, 6, 65.

<sup>1</sup> *Lit.* Bath-room. "It is in this place," writes Bernier, "that the king seated in a chair, his Omrahs standing around him, grants more private audiences to his officers, receives their reports and deliberates on important affairs of State." *Travels*, Ed. Constable and Vincent Smith, (1914), p. 265. Shāh Jahān ordered the name to be disused and called it *Diwān-i-Khāṣ*. The reason of the earlier appellation was that Akbar had a bath room in this part of the Āgra palace. Roe (Embassy, I, 196, 202), Mundy (*Travels*, II, 201), Mandelslo (*Voyages*, p. 49) and others frequently refer to it.

<sup>2</sup> The learned editor of the Correspondence, Mr. Foster, leaves this word unexplained. It appears at first sight to have something to do with *Barāḍ*, assignment, draft, cheque (Steingass, Persian-English

Jehangeeries 9475. This includes 3000 rupees Casana [Khazāna] belonging to Mr. Morris Abbot for three emeralds of his sold to Asaf Khan."

English Factories in India, 1624-1629, Ed. W. Foster, p. 33.

A little more than two years later (8 November, 1626), Robert Tottle at Sirhind, writing to John Bangham at Lāhor explains that in writing for bills for 10,000 or 12,000 rupees he meant 10,000 'rupees Jangers which is small twelve thousand.'

English Factories, *ibid.*, 149.

If "10000 rupees Jangers" were equal in exchange-value to "small twelve thousand," in 1626 A.C., it is obvious that the heavy rupees continued to remain in circulation up to almost the very end of the Emperor's reign.

Lastly, there is in the 'Voyage to East India,' first published in 1655, of Edward Terry, Roe's chaplain, an account of Indian coins, in which there is a reference to these heavy rupees. He writes:—

"They call their pieces of silver Roopees, of which there are some of divers values, the meanest worth two shillings and three pence, and the best two shillings and nine pence sterling. By these they account their estates and payments."

*Op. cit.*, Ed. 1777, p. 119.

Elsewhere, he tells us that he gave "a roopee, in our money two shillings and nine-pence" as *solatium* or hush-money to a servant who had been maltreated by a hot-brained Englishman of their company. *Ibid.*, 167.

Now if the 'meanest' or ordinary rupee was worth 2s. 3d., its ratio to the one which he values at 2s. 9d. was that of 27 : 33, i.e. 9 : 11 or 99 : 121, which is, to all intents and purposes, the same as that of 100 to 120. Terry's best rupees, therefore, must have been no other than the 'Jangeries' or 'Jangiers' mentioned by Roe and others, of which five went as far as six ordinary ones.

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Dictionary, s.v.). But it is more probably an early Anglo-Indian corruption of *Sotā bardār*, *Sontā bardār*—"an attendant who carries a silver bludgeon about two or three feet long in his hand and runs before the palkee." (Glossary in Gladwin's Revenue Accounts, 1796, p. 126)

The word is not in Hobson-Jobson, but it occurs twice in Mrs. Meer Hussun Ali's 'Observations on the Mussulmans of India' (Ed. Crooke, 1917), pp. 47, 250, and is explained by the Editor as "a bearer of the silver stick or mace," p. 47, Note.

<sup>1</sup> There is a statement of similar import in De Laët's *De Imperio Magni Mogolis* which was published in 1631. "'Argentea autem per Rupias, quae communiter valent duos solidos et novem denarios Angli. interdum etiam tantum duos,' that is to say, the rupee was ordinarily worth 2s. 9d. but sometimes only 2s." A few lines further down, De Laët values \* \* \* the rupee at 2s. 3d." (V. A. Smith, 'the Treasure of Akbar,' J.R.A.S. 1915, p. 238). Here, as in Terry, the author or his informant appears, in speaking of the 2s. 9d. rupee to have had in mind the heavy Jahāngiri Rupee.

It might be as well to formulate the net result of these concurrent and mutually corroborative statements in the following propositions:—

(i) There were two distinct varieties of these issues and each of them had its own scale of weights.

(ii) In the first or earlier variety, the pieces in both metals were only one-fifth heavier than the ordinary muhr and rupee of Akbar. The maximum weight of the new muhr was about 204 grains, that of the new Jahāngirī *Sikka*, about 214 grains.

(iii) In the second or later variety, the issues in both metals were one-fourth heavier than the ordinary muhr and rupee of Akbar. The theoretical issue weight of this muhr was  $212\frac{1}{2}$  grains, that of the corresponding silver coin  $222\frac{1}{2}$  grs. or thereabouts.

(iv) The standard of fineness was retained at the old level, and was exactly the same in all. The coins, therefore, exchanged in the proportion of their metallic contents.

(v) The ordinary rupees were called *Khazāna*, *Chalanī*, and by other names. Both types of the new silver coins were popularly known as *Jahāngirīs*, in spite of the difference in weight and value, and the designation is indiscriminately applied to both, by the European writers. The *Jangeries* of Roe and Tottle were the coins of the earlier and less heavy type; the 'Jangers' of Mitford belonged to the second or more heavy type. These last, however, were, by those who cared for precision of nomenclature, distinguished, by the appellation *Savoye* [*Sawā'ī*] from the others, to which the epithet *Jahāngirī* was then restricted.

(vi) Though the mints were forbidden to strike either of these Heavy types in the sixth year, they continued to be employed in commercial transactions up to the very end of the reign.

There is still one question which remains unanswered. It is, 'When, or at what point of time in the reign were the orders for issuing the second or *sawā'ī* type of coins issued'? The words used by Jahāngir himself in this connection [ 'at this time,' در این اَبام ] are exceedingly vague and may be interpreted as one pleases. The European evidence also throws no light on the matter. We have, therefore, to fall back upon the coins preserved in our Museums. In the circumstances, it is fortunate that they speak with no uncertain voice. A glance at the British Museum Catalogue is sufficient to indicate that this took place in the beginning of the fourth year of the reign, which commenced on the 14th of Zi-l-ḥajja 1017. Only one *Sawā'ī* coin of an earlier date is known—P.M.C., 1093. It weighs 221 grains, and displays the figures 1017-3. If the reading is correct and there is no mistake (r and r are liable



to be mistaken on coins), the point of bifurcation would have to be placed somewhere in the latter part of the third year.

Jahāngīr informs us that the order for stopping the further issue of *Sawā'is* was promulgated on 11 Ardibihisht VI. R. but a Lāhor *Sawā'i* of Tīr is known (P.M.C. 1104). It may be also added that the mints of Tatta, Qandahār and Kashmīr continued to strike Heavy Rupees of the first or early type up to the 5th (1019 A.H.), 7th and even 8th years (1021 A.H.) respectively (P.M.C. 1004-6, 1035-6 and 1074-7; L.M.C. 1548-9.)

In this connection, it is necessary to advert to another point which is not unlikely to arrest the attention of and perhaps perplex the reader. The Emperor says that the new muhr to which he gave the name of *Nūr Jahānī* was of one *tola* and he adds by way of gloss that the *tola* was  $2\frac{1}{2}$  current *Misqāls* of Irān and Turān (Text, 5, l. 27). وزن توله ط قى دونيم  
مقال معمول ايران و توران

Now we know that this first or earlier variety of the Heavy Muhr weighed between 200-2 grains, and it is common knowledge that the *tola* of Akbar was, at the most, only about 186 grs. But the Emperor also informs us that the *tola* was equal to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  current (معمول) *Misqāls* of Irān (Persia) and Turān. The question then is what was the weight of this *Misqāl*? A full discussion of the matter would be a task of extreme complexity and would take me beyond the scope of this inquiry. It will suffice to say that it is ordinarily reckoned at about 72 grs. Fryer gives '96 miscolles' as equal to the pound avoirdupois of 7,000 grs. (A New Account of East India and Persia, Ed. 1698, p. 406.) This would make the *Misqāl* equal to grs.  $72\frac{1}{4}$ . Jonas Hanway reckons 80. 9116 *Misqāls* to the pound troy of 5,760 grs. (Travels, Ed. 1753, II, 21). This gives a value of 71.18 grs. for the *Misqāl* and this is accepted by Mr. R. S. Poole (Coins of the Shāhs of Persia, Introd., p. lxi) who adopts for practical purposes, the standard of 72 grs. But like almost all old units of measure and weight, the *Misqāl* has fluctuated considerably from time to time and place to place. The jeweller Tavernier whose business it was to make himself thoroughly conversant with the current coins and jewellers' and goldsmiths' weights of the countries in which he traded tells us that six [Persian] *melscales* make one Once (French). Travels, Ed. Ball, I, 399.

Now a French ounce was 482.312 grs. Troy; the *Misqāl* would then be equal to 80.385 grs. Troy. (*Ibid.*, I, 418) But if the *Misqāl* was 80 grs.,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  *Misqāls* or one *Tola* would be = 200 grs. and this is strangely enough the actual weight of the first or earlier type of the heavy muhr.

But it is not impossible that Tavernier was labouring

under some misapprehension and one cannot help suspecting that the Emperor is speaking loosely without making any conscious attempt at exactness. This would be by no means inconsistent with his own character, or that of his Journal. I have already pointed out in a note that this latter, though substantially correct and reliable, and abounding in minute and interesting details, is full also of conflicting and contradictory statements, arithmetical lapses and errors of omission and commission in reference to all sorts of matters.

But a third explanation also is just conceivable. There is reliable contemporary evidence, both European and indigenous, for believing, as I have shown in another note, that this Emperor raised the weight of the seer which had been 30 *dāms* in the time of his father (*Āin*, Tr. I, 38, 134) to 36 *dāms*, an augmentation of exactly 20 p.c. (*Tūzūk*, Trans. II, 108). We also know that he introduced a Jahāngīrī *gaz* or yard which was about ten fingers longer than the Ilāhī *gaz*.

The tola was a fraction of the seer, and it is not inconceivable, that a Jahāngīrī tola was introduced side by side with the Jahāngīrī seer and *gaz*. If its weight was in the neighbourhood of 220 grs. and if the *miṣqāl* is supposed, *pace* Tavernier, to have been as much as 80 grains, we should have a very close approximation to the actual weight of the existing specimens of the Muhr of the first issue.<sup>1</sup> But these are conjectures and hypotheses of secondary importance. The main thing is the clue to the weights of the pieces and that we have now in our hands.

Before concluding this dissertation on the metrology of these abnormal issues, it may be proper to inquire if the uttering of rupees and muhrs of the normal or Akbarī weight was expressly countermanded or silently discontinued during the six years in which their heavier counterparts or substitutes had vogue. The Emperor himself says nothing explicitly on the matter, and we are left to answer the question solely on the basis of the Numismatic evidence. This seems to indicate that the striking of silver and gold pieces of the old type was extremely rare, if not altogether suspended during the first six years of the reign.

Leaving out of account the exceptional *Salīmī* coins which have no bearing on the point, the only specimens known can be counted on one's fingers. A muhr struck at Āgra in 1018-5 and weighing only 165 grs. was published by Mr. Delmerick in J A S.B., 1876, p. 292. An Akbarnagar rupee of 1017-Tir is registered in the P.M.C. (No. 951) which draws only 176 grs.,

<sup>1</sup> The Akbarī tola was about 186 grs. . Now  $\frac{1}{10}$  or  $\frac{1}{8}$  of 186 =  $\frac{111.6}{8} = 223 \frac{1}{8}$ . But the Muhr was  $\frac{1}{12}$ ths of the tola and  $\frac{1}{12}$  of 223  $\frac{1}{8}$  =  $\frac{102.7}{8} = 204 \frac{1}{8}$  grs.—which is very near the actual weight of the earlier or less heavy type.

and Mr. Nelson Wright has catalogued two others (I.M.C. 644-5) which issued from the same distant atelier in 1019 A.H. (5 R.) and turn the scale at 178 grs. A rupee of the old weight 175 grs. appears to have emanated from Elichpūr also in 1016 A.H. Now taking the catalogues of the three largest collections of Mughal Coins in the world, we find (excluding the *Salīmī* series), about 125 specimens altogether of the first five years and five months of Jahāngir's reign, of which all but the four just described conform to the new standards of weight.<sup>1</sup> These exceptions cannot be altogether ignored, but their number is so small that they may be safely regarded as sporadic or irregular issues testifying to the carelessness or forgetfulness of the provincial mint-masters or the inefficient supervision of the mints in outlying portions of the Empire.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> There is not one in Mr. Lane Poole's Catalogue of the British Museum (1892), nor was there any in the superb collection of Dr. White King which contained altogether more than ninety gold and silver coins of this Emperor

<sup>2</sup> In the recently published Lucknow Museum Catalogue however, about eighteen others are registered. See Nos. 1182; 1274-7; 1342-52, 1478-9. The Mints are Āgra, Aḥmadnagar, Elichpūr, Barār, Burhānpūr and Jālnapūr.

## XI. "PORTRAIT MUHRS" OF JAHĀNGĪR.

It is now nearly a hundred years since the so-called 'Portrait-muhrs' or 'Bacchanalian Coins' of the Emperor Jahāngīr were first described and figured by Marsden in the *Numismata Orientalia*.

The four specimens which the father of Indian Numismatology had the good luck to secure are now in the British Museum, which had acquired up to 1892, no less than half a dozen others. The extreme rarity of these pieces may be judged from the fact that the Indian Museum can boast of but one example (a duplicate of B.M.C. 315), and only one other is registered in Mr. Whitehead's Catalogue of the splendid collection in the capital of the Panjāb. (P.M.C. 889).<sup>1</sup>

These exceedingly curious and interesting issues have been frequently described or alluded to, but it is permissible to say that much of what has been written about them by *savants* and *sciologists* is alike erroneous or beside the purpose. This is probably due to the fact that the only references to them that are found in the Historical literature have hitherto remained unnoticed though they are most illuminating. Two of them occur in the untranslated portion of Khāfi Khān's *Muntakhab-u-l-Lubāb*, and they are further elucidated by an explicit statement in the *Tūzūk-i Jahāngīrī*.

The first of these authors writes :—

درین سال فرمودند که شبیه بادشاه را بر پارچه طلا بوزن یک توله مسکوب  
ساختمه طرف دیگر صورت شیری که مرکوب آفتاب باشد. نمایان نموده بامرای  
مقرب و فدویان خاص دھد کہ باعزاز بر سر دِسقار یا روی سیفہ بجای حرز  
جان نگاه می داشتہ باشند \*

*Bibl. Ind.*, Text, I, 272, l. 1.

"In this year [*scil.* the sixth of the reign,] he [*scil.* the Emperor] gave orders that a piece of gold weighing one tola, stamped on one side with the image (شبیہ) of the Pādishāh, and displaying on the other, the figure (صورت) of a lion surmounted (*lit.* ridden) by a sun should be given to the favourite (*lit.* kept near, esteemed, honoured) Amīrs or most devoted

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<sup>1</sup> The specimen in the Lāhor Collection is a duplicate of B.M.C. 319. A duplicate of B.M.C. 315 is in the Cabinet of the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, Codrington, *J.B.B.R.A.S.* 1891, p. 32. The Lucknow Museum possesses nearly seven hundred coins of this Emperor—but any example of the Portrait-muhr is conspicuous by its absence.

servants, and that they were to wear it (*lit.* keep it or guard it) respectfully on the sash of the turban or on the breast-front as a life-preserving amulet."<sup>1</sup> [حرزجان].

The historian once more refers to the matter in his chronicle of the 21st year of the reign (1035-6 A.H.) and says:—

سابق مقرر بود که پادشاه صورت خود را بر پارچه طلائی مدور بوزن یک توله مسکوی ساخته طرف دیگر شبیه شیری که بر آن افتاب سوار باشد سگده زده با امرای مقرب خاص می بخشیدند که بر چیره بسته باعث افتخار خود و زیب دستار می داشتند و بعضی در گردن انداخته بر روی سینه حرز جان نگاه میداشتند درین سال حکم فرمودند که شبیه را کلان تر از پنج توله طلا ساخته با امرای مخصوص مقرب می داده باشند \*

*Ibid.*, I, 386, five lines from foot.

"The rule or practice had been formerly established of presenting to the specially-favoured Amirs a round piece of gold weighing one tola, stamped [on one side] with the image (صورت) of the Pādishāh, and impressed on the other with the figure (شبهه) of a lion on which the sun was mounted, so that they might bind it on their turbans, and it would [both] exalt their dignity and add to the beauty of their head-dress. Others (*lit.* some) threw it round their necks and wore it as a life-preserving amulet on the breast-front. In this year [*scil.* XXI R.Y.] [the Emperor] gave orders that the portrait-piece (شبهه) should be made larger and [of the weight] of five tolas of gold, and that it should be given to the specially-favoured Amirs."

It will be seen that we have in these extracts as correct a description of what may be briefly designated the 'Sun-lion variety' of the so-called Portrait-Coins as could be expected from a writer who was not a numismatic specialist. The approximate weight of the pieces,<sup>2</sup> the metal on which they

<sup>1</sup> It is a curious coincidence that this phrase حرز جان means exactly the same as 'Phylactery.' Dr. Ginsburg defines Phylacteries as "small square boxes made either of parchment or black seal-skin in which are enclosed slips of parchment or vellum with Exod. xiii. 2-10; 11-17; Deut. vi. 4-9; 13-22 written on them, and which are worn on the head and the left arm by every Jew on week-day mornings during the time of prayer" (Kitto's Cyclopaedia of Biblical Literature, III. 537). The Greek *Phylakterion* is derived from the verb. *phylassein*, to guard. حرز according to Steingass's Dictionary, means 'guarding, preserving.'

<sup>2</sup> The medals really weigh only about 168 grs. When Khafī Khān says that they weighed a tola he is speaking loosely or inaccurately.

are stamped, their shape and even the year in which this particular type appears (so far as present knowledge extends) to have been first issued are all correctly indicated. The word-picture of the emblem on the Reverse is also commendably true and distinct. But it is more germane to the matter to observe that our informant does not leave us in any doubt as to the purpose for which they were struck, or the uses to which they were to be put. They were, he declares, jewels or souvenirs presented by the Emperor to his most faithful or confidential followers and were suspended from the neck or pinned to the head-dress just as medals or other decorations are worn in our own days. In a word, they were not coins at all and were never intended to serve as currency. They were, in their origin, only medals or badges of distinction, insignia of an exalted Order of Nobility or Merit, or proofs of the wearer belonging to the inner circle at Court.

This conclusion is fully borne out by a passage in the 'Memoirs of Jahāngīr' of which the significance does not appear to have been fully grasped.

"I promoted," says the Emperor, in his Diary of the First year, "Shaikh Ahmad Lāhorī who from my princehood had filled the relationship of service and discipleship (خدمتگاری و مریدی) and the position of a house-born one (*Khānahzāda*) to the office of Mir-i-'Adl (Chief-Justice). Disciples [مريدان] and sincere followers [ارباب اخلاص] were presented on his introduction and to each it was necessary to give the 'token and the likeness' (*Shast u Shabih*). They were given on his recommendation. At the time of initiation [ارادت], some words of advice were given to the disciple [مريد]: he must not confuse or darken his years with sectarian quarrels, but must follow the rule of Universal Peace [صلح كل] with regard to religions; he must not kill any living creature with his own hand, and must not slay anything. The only exceptions are in the battle and the chase. \* \* \* Honour the Luminaries (the Sun, Moon, etc.), which are manifesters of God's light, according to the degree of each, and recognise the power and existence of Almighty God at all times and seasons." *Op. cit.*, Trans. I. 60-1.<sup>1</sup>

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but many European writers also roughly describe the weight of the Mughal rupee as a tola. "A tole," writes Hawkins, "is a rupee chaulany of silver." Purchas, *His Pilgrimes*, I. 217. Thévenot also says of the "Silver Roupie" that it is as big as an Abassy of Persia, but much thicker; it weighs a Tole." *Travels into the Levant*, Eng. Trans. of 1687, Pt. III, p. 18

<sup>1</sup> As the passage is important, I give below the original text of its first and most material half. *Tūzūk-i-Jahāngīrī*, Text, p. 28, l. 16.

There can be no doubt that the Shaikh Aḥmad Lāhorī of the above extract is the Ṣūfī Aḥmad of whom Bada'oni tells in mordantly ironical phrase, a scandalous story which is not worth repeating. We read: "During this month [*Scil.* Muḥarram, 1004, XL R. Y.] ʿAḍr Jahān, \* \* \* joined the Divine Faith, as also his two foolish sons; and having taken the *Shast* of the New Religion, he went into the snare like a fish, and so got his Commandership of One Thousand. \* \* \* Among others that joined was a Shaikhzādah, one Gosālah Khān by name \* \* and Mullā Shāh Muḥammad of Shāhābād and ʿQūfī Aḥmad, musician of the Masnad-i ʿQād of Dihlī, who claimed to belong to the progeny of His Holiness Ghaus-us Saqalain.<sup>1</sup> \* \* \* They all conformed to the four degrees of the Faith, and received appointments as Commanders of from One Hundred to Five Hundred. \* \* \* Aḥmad the 'little ʿQūfī' is the same who claimed to be the pupil, or rather the perfect successor of Shaikh Aḥmad Bikrī of Egypt."

Lowe's Translation, II. 418-9. *Bibl. Ind.* Text, II. 404.

It would seem as if Shaikh Aḥmad occupied in the opening year of Jahāngīr's reign, the position which had at one time belonged to Abūl Faẓl. He was a sort of Deputy Grand Master or Hierophant who introduced 'Seekers' and Disciples, and prepared them for initiation into the Divine Faith, of which the forms and outward appearances were, for some time at least, kept up by Jahāngīr.<sup>2</sup> The fact of the matter is that

شیخ احمد لاهوری را کہ از زمان شاہزادگی نسبت خدمتگاری و خانہ زادگی و مریدی داشت بہ منصب میر عدلی سرفراز گردانیدم مریدان و ارباب اخلاص ہوسانہ او از نظر میگذرند و شست و شیبہ بہر کس باید داد بعرض رسانیدہ میدہاند \*

<sup>1</sup> In his translation of this passage in the *Āin* (Trans. I. 209) Blochmann understands the reference to be to "the famous Muhammad Ghaus" who was a friend of Humāyūn and is buried at Bayāna (Beale, Biographical Dictionary Ed. Keene 265). This is an error. The person really meant is the Ghaus-i-Aʿzam, Shaikh 'Abdul Qādir Gilānī or Jīlānī whose grave is at Baghdād. He was the founder of the Qādirī order of Dervishes. He is so styled because he is the Ghaus of 'Men and Jinns' (الْقَلْبِین) as Muḥammad is رسول الْقَلْبِین 'Prophet of men and Jinns.'

<sup>2</sup> Sir Thomas Roe writes of Jahāngīr:—

"He is content with all religions, only he loves none that changeth. But falling upon his father's conceipt, hath dared to enter farther in, and to professe himself for the mayne of his religion to be a greater Prophett than Mahomett; and hath formed to himselfe a New law, mingled of all, which many have accepted with such superstition that they will not eate till they have saluted him in the morning." (The Italics are mine). Embassy, Ed. Foster, 314.

Bernier informs us that many "affirm that Jehan- Guyre died as he had lived, destitute of all religion, and that he nourished to the last a

the *Shast u Shabīh*—'the token and the likeness'—which, Jahāngīr says, were given to "disciples and sincere followers" on Shaikh Aḥmad's recommendation were nothing more than imitations or replicaes of the outward signs and symbols of the new Theistical Sect which Akbar had founded. We have seen this *Shast* mentioned by Badāonī in connection with the initiation of Ṣadr i Jahān, etc., and the custom is even more clearly and fully described by the same authority in another passage. He informs us that during the Festival of the Nauroz of the 30th year in Rab'ī I, 992 [*recte*, 993 A.H.], several persons at court were converted. "And they sacrificed their wealth, and life, and reputation, and religion to their friendship [اخلاص] for the Emperor. And so many holy souls rushed upon this trial, that they cannot be numbered. And sets of twelve persons, by turns, and in exactly the same way, became disciples, and conformed to the same creed and religion. And instead of the tree-of-discipleship he gave them a likeness [*Shabīhī*]; they looked on it as the standard of loyal friendship, and the advance-guard of righteousness and happiness, and they put it wrapped up in a jewelled case on the top of their turbans. And *Allāh Akbar* was used by them in the pre-faces of their writings." Lowe, Trans. II. 349; see also Blochmann, *Āin*, I. 203.

و بجای شجره شبیبی داده آنرا علامت اخلاص و مقدمه رشد و دولت  
میدانستند و در غلافی موضع بجواهر پیچیده بالای دستار میگذاشتند \*

*Bibl. Ind. Text*, II. 338.

But the intimate connection or rather the *direct descent* of the *Shast u Shabīh* of Jahāngīr from the identically designated 'Symbols of Faith' given by Akbar to his own *Murids* or disciples does not rest on the authority of the unsympathetic and somewhat cross-grained compiler of the *Muntakhabu-t-tawārīkh* alone.

It is incontrovertibly established by two passages which occur in the writings of his *bête noir* and *quondam* fellow-student, Abūl Faẓl himself. There is in the 77th chapter of the *Āin-i-Akbarī*, a description of the process of Initiation into the *Dīn-i-Ilāhī* which throws further light on the matter.

"When a novice bears on his forehead," writes that historian, "the signs of earnestness of purpose, and he be daily inquiring more and more, His Majesty accepts him, and admits him on a Sunday when the world-illuminating Sun is in its highest splendour \* \* \* At the above-mentioned time of

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scheme which he had formed, after the example of his father *Ekkar*, of declaring himself a prophet, and the founder of a new religion." (The *Italics* are mine). *Travels*, Ed. Constable and Smith, 1914, p. 288.



overlasting auspiciousness, the novice with his turban in his hands puts his head on the feet of His Majesty. \* \* \* His Majesty, \* \* \* raises up the suppliant, replaces the turban on his head, \* \* \* then gives the novice the *Shast* on which is engraved the 'Great Name' and his Majesty's symbolical Motto [ *طلمس اقدس* ] *Allāhu Akbar*." Blochmann, *Āin*, Trans.

I. 165; *Bibl. Ind. Text*, I. 160, l. 7.

The bestowal of this *Shast* on the acolyte is also mentioned in the *Akbarnāma* under the events of the 26th year. We there read that a man of the name of Fath Dost had "frequently represented to the writer [*Scil.* Abūl Fazl] that he wished to become a disciple of His Majesty, and asked him to represent the matter, that his wish might be fulfilled. \* \* \* He [*Scil.* Akbar] said, 'Although a felicitous day (*rūzbiḥī*) does not shine on his forehead, yet I'll grant his request. \* \* \* He administered the *Shast* according to holy rites.<sup>1</sup> \* \* \* He gave him weighty counsels. As he was not pure of soul and his heart did not accord with his tongue, he, in the course of two days, ceased to exist."

Beveridge, *Akb. Nām.*, Trans. III. 520; Text, III. 354.

What then was this *Shast*? Blochmann says in a note that, in the dictionaries "*Shast* means aim, secondly, anything round, either a ring or thread, as the Brahminical thread. Here a ring seems to be meant. Or it may be the likeness of the Emperor, which according to Badāonī the members wore on their turbans." There can be little doubt that the word is used by Abūl Fazl in the last of these different senses. The transition of meaning also is fairly clear. As the Brahminical thread was the outward symbol of Hinduism, so the likeness or portrait of the Emperor was the badge or emblem of the Ilāhī or Divine Faith.

This consensus of Badāonī and Abūl Fazl entitles us to say that in presenting these Medallions or Portraits to his most devoted adherents, Jahāngīr was not doing anything new. He was merely imitating the example of his father. Akbar, with his irrepressible and occasionally irrational and childish longing for innovation, had introduced the practice of delivering to his so-called *Murīds*, a likeness of himself instead of the *Shajara* or Tree-of-discipleship which was in almost universal vogue among the various spiritualistic or mystical sects in Islām. No medal displaying Akbar's own name has been yet

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<sup>1</sup> The words in the original are *کرامت فرموده شد بآین قدسی* *lit.* "bestowed the *Shast* according to his holy wont or practice." Abūl Fazl frequently uses the word *قدسی* as equivalent to *Akbarī*. Everything that the Emperor did, everything intimately connected with his person was holy, *قدسی*.

discovered, but it is permissible to conjecture that the unique specimen issued in the first year of Jahāngīr, which is in the cabinet of Mr. H. Nelson Wright, is a replica or reproduction of an Akbari *Shast* with the obviously necessary alteration in the date. The obverse has a full-face bust of the 'Great

Emperor,' and his علامہ اقدس ("symbolical motto"), *Allāhu Akbar*, together with the date سنه ۱۰۱۴. On the reverse, we notice a radiated sun occupying the field in a four-fold border of alternate dots and lines. (Proc. Numismatic Society of India, 1916, p. 2.) It may be fairly surmised that this most precious find is one of the very Medals or *Shabīhs* which Jahāngīr says, he presented to his followers on the recommendation of Shaikh Ahmad Lāhorī. The promotion of that individual to the office of Mir-i-Adl (which is alluded to at the head of the paragraph) is recorded under the events of 19th Zi-l-hajja 1014 A.H., about six months only after the death of Akbar. The retention of his father's image on these medals which were probably struck for presentation on the very first *Nauroz* of the new reign [11th Zi-l-qa'da 1014 A.H.] might have been due to want of time, but perhaps also to a desire to attract the sympathy or enlist the support of his father's Amīrs and other influential members of the *Ilāhī* Faith. It is not unlikely that some time elapsed before Jahāngīr's own bust was substituted. The addition of the Lion Couchant on the reverse (the sun had been there already) came, perchance, still later. *Khāfi Khān*'s expressions would seem to imply (though he does not exactly say so) that the lion-emblem was added in the sixth year of the reign, and the suggestion might be offered that therein lay the novelty or innovation.

This is what can be gathered on the subject from Oriental sources. I must now cite the testimony of two European contemporaries to whom these medals were presented by the Emperor. My first witness, Sir Thomas Roe, writes thus in his Journal:—

"Aug. 17 [1616]. I went to visit the King, who as soone as I came in, called to his woemen and reached out a picture of himselfe set in gould hanging at a wire Gould chaine, with one pendant foule pearle, which hee delivered to Asaph Chan, warning him not to demand any reverence of mee other than such as I would willingly give. \* \* \* So Asaph Chan came to mee, and I offered to take it in my hand; but hee made signe to putt of my hatt, and then put it about my neck leading me right before the King. \* \* \* Hee [*scil.* Asaf Khān] made signe to mee to give the king thancks, which I did after my owne Custome. \* \* \* You may now judg the Kings, liberallitye. This giuft was not woorth in all 30 li, yet it was five tymes as good as any hee gives in that kynd, and held for an espiciall favour, for that all the great men that weare the

kings Image (which none may doe but to whom it is given) receive noe other then a medall of gould as bigg as sixpence, with a little chayne of 4 inches to fasten it on their heads, which at their owne chardg some sett with stones or garnish with pendant pearles." The Embassy of Sir Thomas Roe, ed. W. Foster (Hakluyt Society), I, 244-5.

It may be said without fear of challenge that in this most interesting excerpt we have an eyewitness's description of the so-called Portrait-coins. The "medall as bigg as sixpence" with the King's image upon it, which Āsaf Khān signed to him to "putt about his neck," was undoubtedly the *Shabāh* of the *Tūzuk*, and the "little chayne of 4 inches to fasten it on their heads" was unquestionably the *Shast*. This last word means, as we have seen, 'a thread, e.g. the Brahminical thread,' and also 'a ring or anything round' and in this mention of the chain we have a clue to the reconciliation of the conflicting senses in which the word is used. Akbar would seem to have applied it to *both* the Medal (the round thing) and the chain (the thread). Jahāngir 'desynonymised' the term, ordered the chain only to be called *Shast*, and employed a distinct word *Shabāh* for the Medal.

But Roe was not the only foreigner whom we know to have been so favoured. Very recently, documentary evidence has come to light which shows that Augustin Hiriart of Bordeaux—the Austin de Bordeaux of Tavernier's 'Travels' (Ed. Ball, I, 108) and, Sleeman's 'Rambles and Recollections' (Ed. V A. Smith, 1915, pp. 319, 516) was another recipient of a very similar medal or decoration. Four letters of this most versatile French adventurer have been preserved in the *Bibliothèque Publique* at Charpentras Vaucluse (France), and were lately published in the Journal of the Panjāb Historical Society from copies taken on the spot by Mr. P. S. Allen. In the first and earliest of these, written from Lāhor on the 20th of July, 1619, Augustin who calls himself *Houaremand*,<sup>1</sup> "a Persian name which this king has given me, and which means 'inventor of arts,'" says:—

"I have been in this country eight years. All the Frenchmen I had brought with me died in the first year, and thereafter I took service with this king, the Great Mogul \* \* \*

<sup>1</sup> The correct word is *Hunarmand*. Jahāngir informs us in his diary of the 14th year that Nūr Jahān's father, "the *Madārus-Saltāna*, presented to him a throne of gold and silver, much ornamented and decorated, the supports of which were tigers," and which had been made by a skilful European of the name of Hunarmand (skilful) who had no rival in the arts of a goldsmith and a jeweller, and in all sorts of skill (*hunarmandi*)."*Tūzuk*, Tr. II, 80. And on the page after the next, he writes: "Hunarmand, the European who had made the jewelled throne. I presented with 3,000 *darb*, a horse and an elephant." *Ib.* II, 82.

It is impossible to realize the magnificent character of this king. \* \* \*. He has given me two elephants and two horses, a house valued at eight thousand livres and *his likeness in gold to put on my hat, which is a mark of honour corresponding to the Order of the Holy Spirit in France.*" (Loc. cit., Vol. IV, 1915, p. 7. The Italics are mine).

Nothing could be more clear or explicit than this testimony.

We have so far considered the subject only in its general aspects. But these issues are so rare, and interesting from so many points of view that it is worth while to dwell upon them in some detail. The medals are not all exactly alike. At least four types can be distinguished, and one type is represented in four varieties. There is, first of all, the type with bust in profile on the Obverse and the Sun-lion Emblem on the Reverse. In one variety, something like a book is held in the hand. In another, there is a fruit in the left hand, and 'the right hand rests on the left fore-arm'. In a third, there is a cup of wine in the right hand, and the supposed book is in the left. There are differences also in the Reverse, inasmuch as the Lion's face is, in one variety, turned to the left, instead of to the right as in the other three. All these issues belong to the sixth year and have an identical legend in prose. In the seventh year, we find on the Obverse, a portrait of the Emperor, nimbate and seated cross-legged on throne, with a goblet in the right hand. The Reverse has neither Sun nor Lion, and is filled by a legend in eight-foil. In a third type (VIIR), the aureoled 'bacchanalian figure' is in the centre of the Obverse; the Reverse shows the Sun-lion in field and each hemistich of a metrical legend occupies the exergues. The fourth and last type was stamped at Ajmer in the ninth year. The Obverse is almost entirely covered by a portrait of the Emperor posed as usual with halo round head and wine-bowl held near the lips, and there is just room enough for each hemistich of a Persian couplet on the right and left of the picture. The Reverse exhibits a small radiated sun in a central square made up of dots. The name of the mint (Ajmer) and the Hijrī date (1023) are recorded on the left of the square, the regnal year (IX) and the invocation **بِأَمْرِ** appear on its right. The rest of the surface is occupied by a second couplet. Historically, this type is perhaps the most interesting of all, and its curious inscriptions demand and deserve extended notice.

Let us first of all consider the Obverse. It has been said by a high authority that "in the sixth year of his reign (1020), he [*scil.* Jahāngīr] ventured upon the daring innovation of engraving his own portrait on some of his gold coins." (B.M.C. Introcl. lxxx). It is submitted that this statement can not

be accepted without material qualifications and reservations. I have already shown that Jahāngir was, in this instance, merely following in the footsteps of his father, and the responsibility for 'the daring innovation' if it really was one, must rest on the shoulders of Akbar. But it is not at all certain that Akbar was doing anything absolutely new. Apart from the fact that these pieces were not *coins* at all, the practice of engraving images on coins cannot be said to have been unknown in the Muslim world. The Mintages of the 'Ayūbite Khalifs, the Saljūqides of Rūm, the Atābegs of Mosul, the Urtukides of Amīd (Diarbikr) and Marīdīn frequently display crowned figures sitting on horseback or cross-legged on thrones, (White King, Sale Catalogue, Pt. III, Nos. 2252, 2479, 2480 2531-2539, 2549-2553, and 2561. See also Encyclopædia Britannica, Eleventh Edition; Art. Numismatics, pl. IV, fig 11, Atābegs).

But there is a parallel from nearer home, and much more to the purpose. At least one Muslim predecessor of Akbar on the throne of Hindustān itself appears to have struck a coin or medal with an equestrian portrait of himself on the Obverse. This was the 'Pathān' Sulṭān Shamsu-d-dīn Iltutmish. Several specimens in two types of this rare issue are known.<sup>1</sup> See Gibbs, Numismatic Chronicle, Pl. XI, 2; White King, Sale Catalogue, Pt. III, No. 2999; Thomas, Initial Coinage of Bengal, Pt. II, 350, 353; Chronicles of the Pathān Kings of Dehli, 78-9; Hoernle, *J.A.S. Bengal*, 1881, pp. 55-5, pl. I, figs. 1-2; H. N. Wright, I.M.C. II, No. 32.

It has been also suggested that the "aureole or nimbus round the head" was probably derived "from Christian paintings." I venture to say that this statement is of doubtful validity, if not demonstrably erroneous. The writer of the article on 'aureole' in the 'Encyclopædia Britannica' says that the "*Nimbus* in Christian art appeared first in the 5th century, but practically the same device was known still earlier \* \* \* in non-Christian art. Thus \* \* \* it is found with the gods on some of the coins of the Indian kings Kanishka, Huvishka and Vasudeva, 58 B.C. to A.D. 41 (Gardner's Cat. of Coins of Greek and Scythic kings of Bactria and India, Brit. Mus. 1886, plates 26-29). And its use has been traced through the Egyptians to the Greeks and Romans, representations of Trajan (arch of Constantine) and Antoninus Pius

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<sup>1</sup> The following remarks of "the Prince of Indian Numismatologists" on this "most remarkable curiosity of the entire Pathān series" will bear quotation: "The authoritative portrait of Altamsh, on horseback, is highly interesting, giving, as it does, so many curious details of costume and equipment. \* \* \* The general design follows one of the exceptional models of the coinages of Ghor and Herāt, where the horse is seen at full charge, and the rider with up-raised mace, the *special* weapon of the great Mahmūd." Chronicles, 78 note.

(reverse of a medal) being found with it. \* \* \* The probability is that all later associations with the symbol refer back to an early astrological origin (cf. Mithras), the person so glorified being identified with the Sun and represented in the Sun's image; so the aureole is the *Hvareno* of Mazdaism. From this early astrological use, the form of glory or 'nimbus' has been adapted or inherited under new beliefs." (*Op. cit.*, 11th Edit., II, 924)

The fact of the matter is that the nimbus is a familiar feature in Persian as well as Indian art. It is found in a famous sculpture round the head of a figure which has been supposed by some to represent the Prophet Zoroaster, and by others the Fravashi of Ahuramazda or the genius of Mithraism<sup>1</sup> (Ker Porter, *Travels in Georgia, Persia, etc.*, II, 191, pl. 66; Malcolm, *History of Persia*, Ed. 1815, I, 259; A. V. W. Jackson, *Zoroaster*, 289-291; Curzon, *Persia*, I, 563). Mr. Vincent Smith writes that "one of the best-preserved paintings at Dandān Uiliq is on a panel (D vii. 5) \* \* \* which represents two sacred or princely personages mounted (Fig. 214). The nimbus behind the head of each rider indicates either his high rank or his sacred character. The artists of the Mughal court in India were accustomed to give this emblem of sanctity to the emperors and even to the members of their families, and in *Khotan during the eighth century, the same practice seems to have prevailed.*" *History of Fine Art in India*, 308. See also *ibid.*, 309 (Picture of a Persian Bodhisattva), 312 (Picture of a Chinese Princess) both of which display a nimbus.

The nimbus is found in the Hindu paintings at Ajantā also (Griffith, pl. 42a in Smith; *ibid.*, figs. 205, 206, pp. 286, 289.)

Jahāngīr considered himself a great connoisseur in architecture and painting (*Tāzūk*. Trans. II. 20). He had several Hindu as well as Persian painters in his service. He tells us of an artist of the name of Bishandās that he "was unequalled in his age for taking likenesses." (*Ibid.*, II. 116.) Two of his most skilful engravers also would appear from their names—Pūran and Kalyān—to have been Hindus. (*Ibid.*, II. 98.) Two Persian painters also are specially commended in the 'Memoirs'. One of them, Abūl Hasan, was honoured with the title of *Nādiru-z-zamān* ('Wonder of the times') and another named Ustād Mansūr received the designation of *Nādiru l-'Aser* ('Wonder of the Age') *Loc. cit.*, II. 20. The secular persistence of tradition in Oriental art is a matter of common know-

<sup>1</sup> The last theory is that of Edward Thomas who argues (*Early Sassanian Inscriptions, Seals and Coins* (Ed. 1868, p. 27) that the figure with the rays and staff represents the God Ormazd, and he bases his identification upon an acknowledged representation of Ormazd in a *Naksh-i-Rustam* bas-relief. As for the rays, he adds in a note that a similar form is given to Ormazd's head-gear in a coin of Hormazd II.

Rawlinson (*Seventh Oriental Monarchy*, 64) takes the same view.

ledge and it is difficult to believe that none of these Hindu and Persian masters should have known anything of the nimbus, or have been indebted for their acquaintance with such a common accessory of pictorial art to the inferior specimens of Christian iconography which the Jesuits made fashionable at the Mughal Court.

Lastly, it has been alleged that "the book is intended for the Koran," and that "its combination with a wine-cup must have been regarded by orthodox Moslems as an outrage." (B.M.C. Introd. lxxx). To prove a negative is proverbially beyond the powers of logic. All that it is possible to say in such a case is that the probabilities are very strongly against the supposition. Jahāngīr was a free liver, drank wine, and had a strong partiality for boar's flesh, but he was not such a flamboyant freethinker as to make public mockery of the 'Holy Book.' He was lax and indifferent, and had perhaps never seriously thought of religion, but he appears to have conformed outwardly to Muslim usages. He does not appear to have neglected the customary prayers (نماز) and speaks of them in his Diary as if their repetition was an *habitual* act. "After performing my evening prayer and counting my rosary," he writes, "we returned to our fixed residence." (*Tūzūk* Trans. I, 384 Text, 190, l. 7.) "After performing the midday devotions, I embarked in a boat and hastened to meet him [*scil.* the Sanyāsi Jadrūp]." (*Ibid.*, II. 52, Text. 252, six lines from foot.) He believed it to be his duty to recite the Fātiḥa on the graves of saints and other pious Muslims, and he tells us that he did so at the shrines of Shāh 'Alam, Shaikh Wajīhu-d-din, Shaikh Aḥmad Khaṭṭū and Shaikh Salīm Chishtī (*Tūzūk*, Trans. I. 421, 425, 428, and II. 70). He went to the 'Idgāh on the first Ramṣān 'Id after his accession, and "performed the dues of thanksgiving and praise" [بنماز عید قیام نموده]; *ibid.*, Trans. I. 45; Text, 21-1. 8). On the 'Īd-i-Qurbān of the 5th Julūs' year, he "sacrificed three sheep with his own-hand" (*ibid.*, I. 189), and he refers more than once to the observance of the customary rite of the festival. (*Ibid.*, I. 344, 411.) He delighted in celebrat-

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<sup>1</sup> The testimony of two European eye-witnesses on this question is not without weight and is cited below:—

"Hee (*scil.* Jahāngīr) turneth over his Beades, and saith so many words, to wit, three thousand and two hundred, and then presenteth himself to the people to receive their Salames or good morrow" Purchas, His Pilgrimage, Ed. 1625, p. 523.

Edward Terry, heartily commends the Indian Musalmāns for this that whatsoever "diversions and impediments they have, arising either from pleasure or profit, the Mahometans pray five times a day *The Mogul doth so, who sits upon the throne, the shepherd doth so, that waits on his flock in the field.*" (The Italics are mine.) *Voyage to East India*, Ed. 1777, p. 255.

ing the *Shab-i-Barāt*<sup>1</sup> with extraordinarily fine illuminations and fireworks. (*Ibid.*, I; 298, 385; II. 94.)

Thirsty toper as he was, he had scruples about drinking wine on the eve of Friday, the Muḥammadan Sabbath. “A year before I became king, I had determined,” he himself informs us, “that I would drink no wine on Friday eve, and I hope, at the throne of God, that He will keep me firm in this resolve as long as I live” (*Ibid.*, I. 20.) He directed the ‘Ulamā and the learned men of Islām to collect those of the distinctive appellations of God which were easy to remember, in order that “I may make them into my rosary (*ward*).” *Ibid.*, I. 21. He requested the sons of Miṣr Wajīhu-d-dīn of Aḥmadābād to send him “some of the names of God which had been tested,” so that if the grace of God were with him, he “would continually repeat them.” (*Ibid.*, I. 129.) His respect for the ‘Book,’ his reverence for its very words, if not belief in its ‘literal inspiration’ is unmistakably shown in the following extract from his diary. “I ordered Sayyid Muḥammad, grandson [*recte*, descendant] of Shāh ‘Ālam to ask for whatever he desired without concealment, and I took an oath on the Qoran to that effect. He said that as I had sworn on the Qoran, he would ask for a Qoran that he might always have it by him, and that the merit of reading it might accrue to his Majesty. Accordingly, I gave the Mir a Qoran in Yāqūt’s handwriting. \* \* \* I told him to translate the Qoran into plain language without ornament, and that without occupying himself with explanations or fine language, he should translate the Qoran in simple language (*luḡhāt-i-rīkhta*) word by word into Persian, and should not add a single letter to its exact purport.” [*یک حرف بر معنی تحت اللفظ نیفزاید*] (*Ibid.*, II. 34, 35 : Text, 242, three lines from foot.)

In this connection, it may be as well to refer to a misconception which is of long standing and which is still prevalent even among well-informed European writers. It has its origin in an assertion made by Sir Thomas Roe in a letter addressed to the Archbishop of Canterbury. It is to the effect that Jahāngīr had never been circumcised. Mr. William Foster, his editor, thinks that Roe’s authority was that exceedingly eccentric ‘Odeombian leg-stretcher, Tom Coryat. (Embassy of Sir Thomas Roe, 313 and note). But whether it is to be traced to Coryat<sup>2</sup> or any one else, it is absolutely

<sup>1</sup> The *Shab-i-Barāt* is the 15th day of Sh’ahān. “It is,” says Hughes, “‘the Guy Fawkes Day’ of India, being the night for display of fireworks. The *Shab-i-Barāt* is said to be referred to in the XLIVth Surah of the Qur’ān, Verse 2, as ‘the night on which all things are disposed in wisdom’”. Dictionary of Islam s.v.

<sup>2</sup> In a letter of Coryat’s printed by Purchas, we do find the following statement: “It is said that he [*scil.* Jahāngīr] is uncircumcised, where-



unhistorical, and it is to be regretted that Mr. Beveridge and Mr. Irvine should have countenanced a fictitious statement. (*Tūzūk*, Trans. I, 450; *J.R.A.S.* 1910, p. 948).

The truth is that Jahāngir, and his brothers Murād and Dāniāl went through the ceremony on the same day, viz. 25 Jumādā II, 981 A.H. (22 October, 1573 A.C.) The fact is recorded by all the three contemporary historians, Abūl Fazl, Nizāmuddīn and Badāonī. (*Akbarnāma*, Trans. III. 102-3; Text, III. 74; *Tabaqāt-i-Akbarī*. Text, 311; E.D.V. 370; Badāonī, Text, II. 170; Lowe's Trans. II. 173). As Dowson's rendering is confessedly abridged and not quite faithful to the original, I must quote Mr. Beveridge's version of the two most important sentences in Abūl Fazl's account 'One of the occurrences [of the XVIIIth year] was the festival for the circumcision of the glorious princes. \* \* \* \* On the day of Āzar 9, Ābān Divine month, corresponding to Thursday, 25 Jumādā-al-ākhir [22 October, 1573] those three holy dispositioned ones [*scil.* Salīm, Murād and Dāniāl] underwent the rite of circumcision." (*loc. cit.*, III 102-3.) And Badāonī writes. "On the 25th of this month [*scil.* Jumādā II] the rite of circumcision was performed on their imperial highnesses the Emperor's sons" (*loc. cit.*, II. 173).

But then, *supposing* the thing held in the hand is a book, but not the Qur'ān, what could it be? I venture to suggest that it must be a copy of the *Divān* of Ḥāfiẓ, or some similar collection of Anacreontic Verse 'Wine, women and song' have always gone together. That joyous triplicity is famous in the Literature of all nations, and that of Persia is full of allusions to the group; witness Omar:—

تنگی منی لعل خواهم و دیوانی      صد رمفی باید و نصف نانی  
وانگه من و تونشسته در ویرانی      خوشتر بود از مملکت سلطانی

This is thus literally translated by Heron-Allen :

'I desire a little ruby wine and *A book of verses*,  
Just enough to keep me alive and half a loaf is needful,  
And then, that I and thou, should sit in a desolate place,  
Is better than the kingdom of a Sultan.'

Fitzgerald's paraphrase takes, as usual, great liberties with the text, but is too beautiful to be left out.

'*A Book of verses* underneath the Bough,  
A Jug of Wine, a Loaf of Bread—and thou  
Beside me singing in the Wilderness—  
Oh, Wilderness were Paradise enow.'

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in, he differeth from all the Mahometan Princes that ever were in the world." Pilgrimes, MacLehose's Reprint IV, 474.

The Rubā-‘ī-yāt of ‘Omar Khayyām, ed. E. Heron-Allen, pp. 26, 35 and 267; Fitzgerald’s Works, ed. W. Aldis Wright, III. 351; Whinfield, No. 452.

And Hāfiz sings in the same strain.

درین زمانه رفیقی که خالی از خلل است

صراحی می ناب و سفینه فزل است

Jarrett’s Edition, No. 47; Bombay Lithograph of 1267 A.H. No. 69; Lakhnau Lithograph, No. 46.

“In these days [*scil.* of insincerity and treachery] the friend without guile (*lit.* discord, defect) is the beaker of pure wine and a *Book* (*lit.* boat) of *Ghazals*.”

Once more, the sweetest and most popular of Persian lyrical writers proclaims:—

دو یار زد یک و از باد که من دو مندی

نراغی و کتابی و گوشه چمنی

من این مقام بدنی و آخرت ندم

اگر چه در پیم افزد خلق اسجمنی

Jarrett, No. 524; Lakhnau Lith. No. 547.

“Two friends \* \* good of understanding and of old wine a quantity—two ‘Mans,’ a little leisure and a book—and a sward corner. For this, and the next world I give not this state, though (of carpers) momentarily fall upon me—a Crowd.”

‘The Divān-i-Hāfiz.’ Trans. H. Wilberforce Clarke, II. 856.

No Persian wine-party was ever supposed to be complete without the presence of musicians, dancers and poets. *Ghazals* or Odes were recited, songs were sung and verses extemporised in emulation. In the description of an entertainment given to him at Herāt by his cousin, Muẓaffar Husain Mirzā, Bābur writes: “Amongst the musicians present at this party were Hāfiz Hāji, Jalālu-d-dīn Maḥmūd the flautist and \* \* Ḡhulām-bacha the Jews’ harpist. Hāfiz Hāji sang well as Herti people sing, quietly, delicately and in tune. \* \* Yūsuf-i-‘Alī danced.” (*Memoirs*, Tr., A. S. Beveridge, 303-4 = Leyden and Erskine’s Trans. 20 -4.) Elsewhere, he tells us how he himself was led to compose verses or airs under the genial influence of drink and good company. (A. S. Beveridge, *op. cit.*, 401, 411, 422 and 448 = Erskine, *ibid.*, 268, 276, 282, 291.)

His literary and artistic tastes appear to have been partially transmitted to his descendant, and Jahāngīr not only fancied himself a connoisseur in painting and architecture, but had a weakness for composing ‘poetry.’ He frequently

quotes the verses, which "threw their brilliance on his mind," in characteristically self-sufficient ignorance of their utter worthlessness and banality. (*Tūzuk*, Trans. I. 158-9, 203, 228, 304, 338; II. 37, 115.) His Autobiography is full of references to the wine parties given by him on Thursdays—the day of the week which he considered most auspicious to himself (*ibid.*, I. 386)—and during the Nauroz festival or on other occasions of rejoicing to the members of his inner circle. (*Ibid.*, I. 105, 109, 121, 168, 237, 319, 342, 371, 385; 388, 404, 406, 431, 432, 435, 444; II. 1, 39, 42, 49, 50, 54, 69, 100.)

I have shown that these medals were as a rule, presented as "an especial favour" to the leading Amīrs and the most trusted followers. We may be sure that most of them were solicitous to receive invitations to these parties of pleasure and proud to possess these souvenirs of their boon companionship and 'hobnobbing' with their Sovereign. In these circumstances, what is more natural, or in more perfect keeping with the environment, than to suppose that the thing which looks like a book is a *Dīvān* or *Safīna-i-Ḡhazal*, a complete collection of some Anacreontic poet, or an Anthology of Bacchanalian Verse.

It remains to say something of the Reverse. "The presence of the Sun," writes Mr. Stanley Lane Poole, "has been explained as a reference to the fact that Jahāngīr was born on a Sunday; but it is more probable that the Sun's image appears in virtue of the tendency to solar worship which undoubtedly found encouragement under Akbar and was never positively repudiated by his successor. It is possible that the zodiacal sign Leo may be connected with the month rather than the day of the Emperor's birth which was surrounded by mysterious omens and spiritual agencies if we are to believe the historians." (B.M.C. Introd lxxx-i.)

Now there is not the slightest doubt that Jahāngīr was born, not on a Sunday, but a *Wednesday*. He himself tells us so. "In A.H. 977, on Wednesday, 17th Rab'ī-u-l-awwal, when seven *ghari* of the aforesaid day had passed, when *Libra* (*Mīzān*) had risen to the 24th degree, God Almighty brought me into existence from the hiding place of nothingness." (*Tūzuk*, Trans. I. 2; Text, I. l. 10.) Abūl Faḡl, Nizāmu-d-dīn Aḥmad and Badāonī—all contemporary historians—are practically unanimous in giving the identical date and day of the week. *Akb. Nām.* Trans. II. 503; Text, II. 344, l. 6; *Tab. Akb.* Lakhnau Lith. 288; E.D.V. 334; *Munt-ut-Tawārīkh*, Text, II. 120; Lowe, II. 124.

The other two theories are not so easily disposed of, though they are found on examination, to be almost equally untenable. The author of the *Akbarnāma* has not only recorded the exact hour and minute of Jahāngīr's birth, but given two divergent horoscopes cast by a Musalmān astrologer (Mullā Chānd)

and a Hindū master of the Art (Jotak Rāi).<sup>1</sup> The sign of the ascendant Libra—is the same in both figures, though the degrees must have differed. They disagree also as to the position of the Sun. According to the Mullā, that luminary was in the twelfth house—Virgo. The Hindū sage made him out to be in *Leo*. Now, the situation of *Sol* in *Leo* is, according to all masters of genethliacal science, an exceedingly happy sign. The Sun is the King or Emperor of the planets and has the Kings of the Earth under his special protection. *Leo* is the Sun's own house. He rules that sign and it is called his 'Throne' (Alan Leo, *Practical Astrology*, 90, 38), or his 'Joy,' that is, the "house where he is most strong and powerful." (William Ramesey, 'Astrologia Restaurata,' Ed. 1654, Lib. II. 75.)

At first sight, it would seem that we have here the true explanation of the Emblem, but there are good reasons for holding that the coincidence (if there is one), is purely accidental, and that the symbol has no real connection with the position of the Sun in Jahānjir's Nativity.

In the first place, we have the following remarkable statement in the "Narrative of the Embassy of Ruy Gonzalez de Clavijo to the Court of Timūr in 1403-1406." The visitor was taken to see one of the Royal Palaces in Kesh—Timūr's birth-place—and in the course of the description says:—

"The court led to the body of the building, by a very

<sup>1</sup> As Mr. Beveridge has left out the horoscopes in his translation, I give English versions of the 'figure of the heavens' as cast by Mullā Chānd and the Hindu master of the "starry science" below:—

Mullā Ohānd.

Scorpio 3 Sagittarius 3	Libra 1 Saturn	Virgo 12 Mercury Dragon's Head Leo 11 Venus
Capricornus 4 Jupiter		Cancer 10 Mars
Aquarius 5 Pisces 6 Dragon's Tail	Aries 7	Gemini 9 Taurus 8 Moon

The Hindū Astrologer.

Scorpio 3 Jupiter Sagittarius 2	Libra 1	Virgo 12 Saturn Dragon's Head Leo 11 Mercury Sun
Capricornus 4 Jupiter		Cancer 10 Venus Mars
Aquarius 5 Pisces 6 Dragon's Tail	Aries 7 Moon	Gemini 9 Taurus 8

broad and lofty doorway, ornamented with gold and blue patterns on glazed tiles, richly and beautifully worked. On the top of this doorway, there was the figure of a lion and a Sun, which are the arms of the Lords of Samarcand; and though they say that Timour Beg ordered these palaces to be built, I believe that the former Lord of Samarcand gave the order, because the Sun and Lion which are here represented, are the arms of the Lords of Samarcand; and those which Timour Beg bears are three circles like O's, drawn in this manner ° °, and this is to signify that he is lord of the three parts of the world. He ordered this device to be stamped on the coins,<sup>1</sup> and on everything he had; and for this reason, I think that some other Lord must have commenced this palace, before the time of Timour Beg. The Lord [*scil.* Timūr] has these three O's on his seals, and he has ordered that those who are tributary to him shall have it stamped on the coins of their countries." *Op. cit.*, Trans. C. R. Markham (Hakluyt Society), p. 124.

This would imply that 'the Lion and the Sun' had been adopted as his 'Coat of Arms' by Timūr, and it would seem as if the device was figured on the 'Imperial Ensign' of his Indian descendants also. This 'royal standard of the great Mogul' is depicted in the work of William Terry—Sir Thomas Roe's chaplain—and described as a "Couchant Lion shadowing part of the body of the Sun." (A voyage to East India, ed. 1777, p. 347.) Mr. William Foster, Roe's learned Editor, thinks that Terry adapted it from William Baffin's Map (1619) where a similar drawing is given as the *Insignia Potentissimi Monarchi Magni Mogoli*. This is probably correct, but it is impossible to assent to the statement that the "device was not adopted by any of his [*scil.* Jahāngir's] successors." (Embassy of Sir Thomas Roe, 563-4; see also Illustration facing p. 322.)

The English East India Company's factor, Peter Mundy witnessed the "Great Mogoll's comminge from Brampore [Burhānpūr] where hee lay warring against Decan, unto his garden called Darree ca baag [Bāgh i Dahra],<sup>2</sup> and soe to Agra" on the 1st of June 1632. In his description of the cavalcade, he writes: "Then thousands of horsemen going breadthwise; then came about 19 or 20 great Elephants of State with coverings and furniture; \* \* \* some of them

<sup>1</sup> Coins with this symbol ° ° are actually known. Rodgers has described a silver coin of Timūr dated 781 A.H. and bearing the monogram in his Supplement to the Lahore Museum Catalogue, No. 215. *Vide* also White King Sale Catalogue, Pt. III, No. 2645.

<sup>2</sup> This garden is said to have been founded or laid out by the orders of Bābur and so called on account of a garden-house built there by him for a favourite daughter named Zohra. (Archaeological Survey Reports, IV, 107.) Authentic history, however, does not know of the Emperor's having ever had a daughter of that name.

carryeing a flagg with the Kinges Armes, which is a Tygar couching [Lion couchant] with the Sunne riseinge over his backe."

Travels of Peter Mundy, ed. Sir R. C. Temple (Hakluyt Society), II. 193.

This was in the reign of Shāh Jahān. Some such banner would appear to have been seen by Bernier as well as Manucci at the Court of Aurangzeb. "There is," the former author writes, "this peculiar ceremony in the evening assembly [when the Emperor sat in the Ghusal-khāna] that all the Mansebdars who are on guard pass before the king to salute him with much form. Before them are borne with great ceremony that which they call the Kours, to wit, many figures of silver, beautifully made, and mounted on large silver sticks; two of them represent large fish; two others a horrible, and fantastic animal called Eiedeha [Azdaha, a dragon]; others are the figures of two lions; others of two hands, and others of scales; and several more which I cannot here enumerate, to which the Indians attach a certain mystic meaning." Travels in the Mogul Empire, Trans. A. Constable, Ed. V. A. Smith (1914), p. 266.

Manucci writes as follows of the order of the king's [*scil.* Aurangzeb's] march "At the head came the son of the deceased Shekh Mir with eight thousand cavaliers. In the right wing was Assenalican [Hasan 'Alī Khān] \* \* \* who commanded eight thousand horsemen, the left wing consisting of eight thousand horsemen was commanded by Muhammad Amin Khān. \* \* \* Immediately in front of the king went nine elephants with showy flags; behind these were other four bearing green standards with a Sun depicted on them." (Storia, II. 69.)<sup>1</sup> We may be sure that we have here incomplete descriptions of Jahāngīr's Sun-lion banner. Bernier has left out the Sun, Manucci the lion.

Now, Shāh Jahān and Aurangzeb are not likely to have retained the emblem on the Imperial Standard if it had had a specific connection with the position of the Sun in Jahāngīr's horoscope. The more probable view would be that it was the coat of arms of the family, and that it was at least as old as the days of Timūr. But it is possible to go much further back still, and Clavijo had a dim perception of the truth when he surmised that it had really belonged to "some former Lords of Samarcand." As a matter of fact, the device occurs "on

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<sup>1</sup> It would seem to have been displayed on the Imperial banner down to comparatively recent times. A plate in the *Mémoires sur l'Indoustan* of J. B. J. Gentil who was in India about 1753 A.C. shows four of the emblems embroidered on the 'Alam (flag, standard): (i) a Panja or open hand; (ii) a man's face with rays; (iii) a lion (*sher*) and (iv), a fish. Quoted in Irvine, Army of the Indian Moghuls, 34

the Coins of the Seljuqian Rulers of Persia and Iconium ; it appears on coins of the Mongol Ilkhāns, Ghāzān, Oljaitū and Abū Sa'īd and it is also found on some of those of Muḥammad Uzbek Khān of Kipchāk. (Travels of Marco Polo, Trans. H. Yule, ed. Cordier, I. 352, and the authorities quoted there.) It seems to have been first adopted on the half-dirhams of Qhīlāgu-d-dīn bin Kaikhusrū (Kaikhusrū II), and specimens dated 640 A.H. [1242-3 A.C.] were in the Marsden Collection, *Numismata Orientalia*, No. 98) and Dr. White King's Cabinet. (Sale Catalogue, pt. III. 2484-7; *Encyclopædia Britannica*, Eleventh Edit.; Art. Numismatics, XIX. 904, pl. IV fig. 9.

This emblem is displayed only on the Medals issued in the 6th and 8th years of Jahāngīr's reign. In the 9th, a different design was adopted, the Lion was altogether dispensed with, and the Sun enclosed in a central square of very small dimensions. This was evidently done to make room for a double couplet which is remarkable for its style and expression and of which the following is a paraphrase :—

'On face of gold did Fate delineate  
Jahāngīr the Emperor's portrait.  
The letters of Jahāngīr and *Allāhu Akbar*  
Were from Eternity equal in Number.'

Like most men of his race and times, Jahāngīr was a fatalist. He had, in some way, convinced himself that he had been very wisely chosen as the predestined ruler of Hindustān on the very First day of Creation. He tells us himself that his birth had been foretold by Shaikh Salīm, and that the holy man had given him his own name (*Tūzuk*. Trans I. 2.) His accession to the Imperial throne had been predicted by saints and sages. "I had heard," he informs us, "in the days when I was a prince from Indian sages [دانیان هند], that after the expiration of the reign and life of King Jalālu-d-dīn Akbar, one named Nūru-d-dīn would be the administrator of the affairs of the State. Therefore I gave myself the name and appellation of Nūru-d-dīn Jahāngīr Pādishāh." (*Ibid.*, I. 3.)

Once more he writes : "Shaikh Husain Jāmi \* \* \* had written to me from Lahore six months before my accession that he had seen in a dream that saints and pious men had delivered over the affairs of the kingdom to that Chosen One of the Court of Allāh [Jahāngīr] and that, rejoicing in this news, he should await the event. (*Ibid.*, I. 30-1; see also p. 70.)

These prognostications of the will of Heaven produced all the greater effect on him, because there was a time when the chances of his succession seemed, humanly speaking, by no means assured. He had given repeated offence by his

conduct to his father. He had two brothers of almost his own age, who were by no means devoid of ambition. He had another possible and more dangerous rival in a son of his own, who was the darling of Akbar. He knew that Abūl Faḡl, the guide, philosopher and friend of the Emperor was his deadly enemy. Somehow, all these difficulties vanished. His brothers died one after another of dipsomania. He succeeded in getting his mortal foe waylaid and murdered by the Bundela Chief of Oroha. The plots and schemes of Mān Singh and the Khān-i-A'zam for ousting him in favour of Khusrū encountered opposition from unexpected quarters and proved a dismal failure. The subsequent collapse of Khusrū's rebellion served only to confirm him in this belief in his own predestined greatness.

His exultation finds vent in the following outburst: "They [*scil.* the shortsighted followers of Khusrū] over-looked the truth that acts of sovereignty and world-rule are not things to be arranged by the worthless endeavours of defective intellects. The just Creator bestows them on him whom he considers fit for this glorious and exalted duty, and on such a person doth He fit the robe of honour." (*Tūzūk*, Tr. I 51.)

Of course that head was no other than his own. A few words may be permitted, by way of comment, on the phraseology of the first half of the legend inscribed on this Ajmer medal. To say of Destiny or Fate (قضا) that it had 'painted with its own hand' the portrait of the Emperor on the Medal is a very bold figure of speech. But such expressions are not uncommon in Persian literature and there are in the *Tūzūk* itself three very similar metaphors which no Persian rhetorician would find fault with. For instance, in describing 'an exceedingly fine black line' round the eyes of a Zebra sent to him by the Governor of Orissa, he says:—

\* کوئی نقاشی تقدیر بقلم بدایع نگار کارنامه در صحنه روزگار گذاشته

Text. 327, three lines from foot.

"One might say the Painter of Fate, with a strange [*recte*, wonder-working] brush, had left it on the page of the world." (Trans. II. 201.) Again, in his enthusiastic word-picture of the marks on a walrus or Narhwal tooth, he writes:—

\* این خال و خط است که مشاط تقدیر پیرایه جمال او نموده

Text. 275, l. 12.

"Those moles and patches were what the Tirewoman of Destiny had given as an adornment of its beauty." Trans. II. 96.

And again in speaking of a dagger-hilt made out of the same tooth, he uses a similar expression:—



و بعضی گلهای چنان مینمایند که گویی نقاشی صنع بکلک بدایع نگار از خط

سیاه بر دور آن تحریر کرده \*

Text. 276, five lines from foot.

"And some of the flowers looked as if a skilful painter (*recte*, Painter of Creation) had depicted them in black lines round it with a wonder-working pencil." Trans. II. 99.

The second couplet is a curious illustration of the Oriental belief in the occult properties of Numbers and their mysterious correspondences with sounds and letters. Disposed as he was to believe in his own exalted destiny, Jahāngir was strongly impressed by the fact that the numerical value of the letters constituting the *laqab* or title he had assumed at accession was exactly equal to that of his father's *اسم اقدس*—or 'symbolical motto'—*الله اکبر*. The discovery of this singular equation is solemnly recorded by himself in the following passage of his 'Journal.'

"I had established a custom," he says in his record of the occurrences of the Eighth year," that deserving people [ *ارباب* ] and Dervishes should be brought before me every night, so that I might bestow on them, after personal inquiry into their condition, land or gold [ *زر نقد* ] or clothes.<sup>1</sup> Amongst these was a man who represented to me that the name Jahāngir according to the science of *Abjad* (the numerical value of letters) corresponded to the Great Name [ *اسم اعظم* ], Allāhu Akbar. Considering this a good omen [ *تفاؤل و شگون خوب* ], I gave him who discovered (this coincidence), land, a horse, cash [ *زر نقد* ] and clothing." (Trans. I. 253; Text, 124, l. 5.)<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> For a curious and graphic account (which is too long to quote) of Jahāngir's superstitious reverence for devotees and beggars of all sorts, see Roe, Embassy, ed. Foster, 306-7 and note. Tom Coryat writes to the same purpose. "You shall understand a custome of this king, who sleeping in his Gualle Can, [*Ghusal-khāna*], often when he awakes in the night, his great men (except those that watch) being retired, calls for certaine poore and olde men, making them sit by him, with many questions and familiar speeches, passing the time and at their departure clothes them, and gives them bountifull Almes, often whatsoever they demand, telling the money into their hands." Purchas, His Pilgrimes, MacLehose's Reprint, IV. 491.

<sup>2</sup> I have discussed elsewhere Rodgers' favourite notion that Akbar's real object in inscribing the phrase 'Allāhu Akbar' on his coins was to lay claim to divinity. His remarks on this Ajmer medal show that nothing deflects the judgment even of a well-balanced mind more than a preconceived theory. "There is, I suspect," he writes, "more than one sees on the surface here,—a sly attempt to make himself equal with God, seeing the letters of the name of the king and of God were of the same numerical value. (*J.A.S.B.*, 1888, p. 25.)

This entry belongs to the transactions of the month (Ābān), on the 26th day of which he entered Ajmer. The date on the Medals shows that they were struck soon afterwards in that town, for presentation to his friends and boon-companions on the occasion of some court festival.

But there is one other feature of the fourth or Ajmer type of these pieces, to which a few words of illustration are due. This is the invocation **يا معين** The words themselves signify 'O Helper,' and **معين** is one of the Ninety-nine names of Allāh to which devout Muslims attribute the power of working wonders and which they believe it an act of merit to constantly repeat. But Mu'Inu-d-dīn was also the name of the renowned Khwāja of Ajmer to whose tomb Akbar used to go annually on pilgrimage during the first half of his reign. At least one gold coin of that Emperor has been discovered on which the identical words arrest attention. (Delmerick, *J.A.S.B.*, 1876, p. 292; see also *Āin*, Trans. Blochmann, I. 30.) The words are doubtless amphibological, and susceptible of interpretation either way according to individual fancy. But in the present instance, a peculiar meaning or historical significance attaches to them which it would be ignorance to overlook. They are, in fact, intimately connected with an incident in the life of the Emperor which is recorded at length in his biography, but to which the attention of numismatists does not appear to have been drawn.

"On the 8th of this month of Amardād [*Ninth* year, when Jahāngir's camp was at Ajmer], I found a change in my health, and by degrees was seized with fever and headache. \* \* \* As the fever did not change, and for three nights I took my usual wine, it brought on greater weakness. In the time of disquietude, and when the weakness prevailed over me, I went to the mausoleum of the revered Khwāja \* \* \* and agreed to give alms and charity. God Almighty \* \* \* bestowed on me the robe of health and by degrees I recovered. \* \* \* During my illness, it had occurred to me that when I completely recovered, inasmuch as inwardly I was an ear bored, slave of the Khwāja (Mu'Inu-d-dīn) and was indebted to him for my existence, I should openly make holes in my ears and be enrolled among his ear-bored slaves. On Thursday, 12th Shahrivar, corresponding to the month of Rajab [1023 A.H.], I made holes in my ears and drew into each a shining pearl. When the servants of the palace and my loyal friends saw this, both those who were in the presence and some who were in the distant borders diligently and eagerly made holes in their ears \* \* \* until by degrees the infection caught the Ahādīs and others. At the end of Thursday, the 22nd of the said month, corresponding with the 10th Sh'ābān, the meeting for my solar weighing was arranged in my private audience

hall, and the usual observances were carried out." (*Tūzuk*, Tr. I. 266-8; Text, 130, l. 21.)

It may be fairly conjectured that these Ajmer medals were struck *after* this event and presented as souvenirs of his recovery to the "loyal friends" who had bored their own ears on the day of the solar weighment, *i.e.* the solar anniversary of the Emperor's 46th birthday.

With this passage before us, we are naturally led to inquire if the ears are bored in the medallion, and if the shining pearls are discernible.

The question is perhaps too nice to admit of being confidently answered, though it is certain that the pearl rings in the ears are a peculiar feature of many contemporary portraits of the Emperor. They are clearly seen in the picture which he himself presented to Sir Thomas Roe, and which is engraved in Mr. Foster's Edition of Roe's Embassy (I. 114.) They are distinctly visible also in the miniature in the British Museum of which the frontispiece to Rogers and Beveridge's Translation of the *Tūzuk* is a reproduction.

## XII. THE ZODIACAL COINS.

The enthusiastic collector of Mughal Coins who has entertained hopes of learning something new from the indigenous chronicles of the House of Timūr about the Zodiacal Coins of Jahāngīr or his consort will, I am afraid, be sorely disappointed. These curious mintages would appear to have been zealously sought after and become more or less rare even in Tavernier's day (Travels, English Trans. of John Philips, Ed. 1678, Part ii, p. 11), but there is, with a single exception, no reference whatever to them in the historiss. That exception is, strangely enough, the mention made of them by the Emperor himself in his Autobiography. The passage has been cited by Mr. Stanley Lane Poole (B M.C. Introd. lxxxii) from Dowson's version (E.D. VI, 357), but it will bear quoting again. This is how it is rendered by Mr. Alexander Rogers :—

"Previously to this," Jahāngīr records in his diary on 23rd Farwardīn of the Thirteenth regnal year [15th Rab'ī II, 1027 A.H.], "the rule of coinage was that on one face of the metal, they stamped my name, and on the reverse the name of the place, and the month and year of the reign. At this time it entered my mind that in place of the month they should substitute the figure of the constellation which belonged to that month; for instance, in the month of Farwardīn, the figure of a ram, and in Urdibihisht the figure of a bull. Similarly, in each month that a coin was struck, the figure of the constellation was to be on one face, as if the Sun was emerging from it. This usage is my own, and has never been practised until now." (Rogers and Beveridge, *Memoirs of Jahāngīr*, II, 6-7).

This notice will perhaps be called bald and disappointing, but any one who will take the trouble of comparing it with Tavernier's long-winded rigmarole about "Money that represents the figures of the Twelve signs" (*loc. cit.*, Part II, pp. 10-11) must admit that if it is brief, it is also straight-forward and correct so far as it goes. There is no nonsense in it, as in Tavernier's yarn, about Nūr Jahān danoing one day before Jahāngīr when he had "drank briskly" and "began to be very merry," of obtaining from him the boon of "reigning as sovereign" for a day "and ordering at once the coinage of of two millions of "Roupies of gold and silver bearing her own name" in the "space of twenty-four hours." The whole story is more like a folk-tale than an historical explanation, and it is hardly worth while to make more than this passing reference to it.

Before leaving the subject, I may say that there is, in the

correspondence of the English East India Company, an explicit notice of all coins bearing the name of the Empress having been ordered to be withdrawn from circulation by Shāh Jahān soon after his accession. "All rup [ees] of Noor Jehann Beagams stampe," write the Factors at Āgra to the President and Council of Surat on 17th February 1628, "are called in and not to be uttered." (Foster, *English Factories in India. 1624-1629.* p. 241.) Tavernier has something to say about this matter also, but he mixes it up with the *Zodiacal* series. "When Sultan Kourom," he informs us, "came to the Crown after the death of his Father, he forbade all persons to use those Roupies upon pain of death, and commanded all that had any of them, either in Gold or Silver, to carry them to the Mint, \* \* to the end that they might be melted down. For which reason they are at present very rare, particularly those in Gold; among the rest two or three of them are so hard to be found, that an hundred crowns has been given for one of them. \* \* \* The Queen during her Reign of twenty-four hours, had that respect for the King, that on the back-side of the pieces whereon the twelve Signs were engraven, she caused the name of *Gehan-guir*, to be stamped with her own, and the name of the place where they were Coined, all in *Arabick* Letters." (Tavernier, *loc cit.*, p. 11)

### XIII. JAHĀNGĪR'S CAMBAY TANKAS.

The reign of Jahāngīr marks an epoch in the history of Mughal Numismatics and was distinguished by several notable events. Of these, the issue of the Zodiacal series was undoubtedly the most remarkable and it has, in the popular imagination, almost entirely eclipsed the others. But great interest must also attach to the so-called Portrait or Bacchanalian Muhrs, the mintages exhibiting the name of Nūr caḥān and the abnormally heavy Ashraffis and Rupees. All these rare issues have been sought for by collectors of Mughal coins, and their exertions may be said to have been fairly well-rewarded. But there is still one type of which no specimen has been discovered, although certainly known to have been uttered, viz. the Gold and Silver Tankas.

The Zodiacal Coinage was introduced in the first month (Farwardin) of the 13th Regnal year. (Rab'ī I–Rab'ī II, 1027–A.H., March–April, 1618 A.C.). Some three months before this, Jahāngīr had paid a visit to Cambay and his camp was pitched “on the shore of the salt sea” on Friday the 8th of Dai (XII R.). *Tūzūk*, Tr. I, 415. He had a desire to look at the sea and witness the ebb and flow of the Ocean, and after a halt of ten days the royal standards started for Ahmadābād on Tuesday, the 19th, i.e. about 30th December, 1617 A.C. [Mr. Rogers has ‘1618’ but the year is demonstrably wrong.] *Ibid.*, I, 419. Here, the idea seized him of giving a proof of his inventive genius by ordering the issue of a new type of gold and silver coins called Tankas. We read:—

درینولا حکم شد که تَنکِه طلا و نقره ده بست وزن مهر و روپیه معمول  
سکه کنند سکه تَنکِه طلا یکطرف لفظ (جهانگیر شاهی سنه ۱۰۲۷) و جانب  
دیگر (ضرب کهنیابیت سنه ۱۲ جلوس) مقرر شد و سکه تَنکِه نقره یکرو درمهان  
تَنکِه لفظ (جهانگیر شاهی سنه ۱۰۲۷) و بر دور این مصرع \*  
بزر این سکه زن شاه جهانگیر ظفر پرتو  
و بر روی دیگر درمهان تَنکِه (ضرب کهنیابیت سنه ۱۲ جلوس) و بر دور  
مصرع دوم \*

پس از فتح دکن آمد چو در گجرات ازماندو

در هیچ احدی (Sic) تَنکِه مهر از من سکه نشده و تَنکِه طلا و نقره اختراع

منست نامش تَنکِه جهانگیری فرمودم \*

Sayyad Ahmad Khān's Edition, 207, l. 5. This passage is one of those translated in Elliot and Dowson's volumes, and his rendering is quoted below.

"It was also ordered in these days, that *tankas* of gold and silver, ten and twenty times heavier than the current gold *mohur* and rupee, should be struck. The legend on the face of the golden *tanka* was 'Jahāngīr Shāh A.H. 1027,' and on the reverse, 'Struck at Khambāit, the 12th year of H.M.'s reign.' For the silver *tanka*, on one side, 'Jahāngīr Shāh, A.H. 1027,' with a verse round it, the meaning of which is, 'This coin was struck by Jahāngīr Shāh, the ray of Victory.' On the other side was impressed, 'Struck at Khambāit, the 12th year of H.M. reign,' with this verse round it, 'After the conquest of the Dakhin, he came from Mandū of Gujārāt.' In no reign before this had *tankas* been coined except of copper. The *tankas* of gold and silver were inventions of my own, and I called them *Jahāngīrī tankas*."

*Op. cit.*, VI, 354-5.

Now there can be no doubt that the translator has by misunderstanding one important word in the very first line of this description, distorted its real meaning and made the Emperor say what he never intended. Jahāngīr tells us that these *tankas* of gold and silver were دو بست وزن مهر و روپيه معمول i.e. they were to the ordinary muhr and rupee as ten (دو) is to twenty (بست). In other words, they were only *double* the weight of the ordinary muhr and rupee, not 'ten or twenty times heavier' as Dowson's rendering would imply.

This is the sense in which this idiomatic expression has been understood by Mr. Rogers also, but he appears to have followed, in places, a slightly different text, 'as will clearly appear from his rendering which is subjoined for comparison.

"At this time an order was given that *tankas* of gold and silver should be coined twice the weight of ordinary muhrs and rupees. The legend on the gold coin was on one side the words, 'Jahāngīr-shāhī 1027' [1618], and on the reverse 'Struck in Cambay in the 12th year of the reign.' The legend for silver coins was on one side, 'Sikka Jahāngīr-shāhī 1027'; round it, this hemistich, 'King Jahāngīr of the conquering ray struck this'; and on the reverse, 'Coined at Cambay in the 12th year of the reign,' with this second hemistich round it—

'When after the conquest of the Deccan he came to Gujārāt from Māndū.'

In no reign except mine have *tankas* been coined except of *copper*; the gold and silver *tankas* are my invention. I ordered it to be called the *Jahāngīrī Coinage*." *Tūzūk*, Tr. I, 417-8. [Mr. Rogers has read مسی (copper) where the printed text has من (mine) and سکه instead of نکه].

These Tankas then may, without the least hazard of controversion, be considered to have been double muhrs and double rupees. We have it on the authority of Jahāngīr himself that muhrs and rupees of 100, 50, 20, 10 and 5 tolas had been struck by his orders in the very first year of his reign and the new names given by him to those issues are also recorded. (*Tāzūk*, Trans. I, 10; Text, 5, l. 7.) But neither rupees nor muhrs drawing only two tolas are mentioned in this list, and the idea of striking pieces of that weight seems to have now occurred to him.

It should be remembered that no single coin larger or heavier than the rupee of 11½ māshas finds place in Abūl Fazl's inventory of Akbar's silver coins, or is represented in our Museums and private collections. Anything like a double muhr of the Great Emperor is equally unknown to coin-collectors, and it is doubtful if the square muhr called *Chugul*, in an evidently corrupt passage of the *Āīn*, was equal in value to only two *La'l-i-Jalāls*. It seems to me that Jahāngīr desires to emphasise these facts when he avers that in no reign save his had tankas been coined except of copper, and plumes himself on gold and silver tankas being "his own invention." Dowson remarks in a footnote that "the statement is certainly not true as regards silver tankas; and it seems to have puzzled the copyists, for in several MSS. the word من (I) is written instead of مسی (copper) making the whole passage unintelligible. But perhaps nonsense was preferred to error." (*Op. cit.*, VI, 355, Note.)

I venture to say that Dowson himself has altogether failed to grasp the real meaning of the author whose supposed ignorance he censures. When Jahāngīr says that in no reign before his own, had tankas been coined except of copper, he has in mind the heavy copper pieces issued by his father during the last ten years of the reign. These coins weighed about 640 grs. Each piece was in weight and value equal to two dāms, and invariably exhibited the denominational epithet *Tanka* on the obverse.

It was of these double-dāms to which his father had given that specific appellation and which were his father's 'invention' that the Imperial diarist was really thinking when he wrote that in no reign except his own had tankas been struck except of copper. Each of the new coins which he himself now uttered was in weight and value equal to two rupees or to two muhrs, and was, for that reason, or rather, by parity of nomenclature, called 'tanka of silver' or 'tanka of gold.' The silver and gold coins weighing about 170 grs. of the so-called Pathān Emperors to which Dowson refers, have nothing whatever to do with the matter. Jahāngīr was not thinking of them. He was not a student of, much less, an expert in Indo-



Musalmān Numismatics, and probably never knew or cared to know what name they had borne in their day. He had in his mind's eye his own father's *tankas* only. Their intentional weight had been double that of the *dām*, or unit of the copper Currency, and they had been designated *Tankas* of copper. He had now determined to strike pieces, the theoretical weight of which would be exactly double that of the rupee and the muhr—the units of the currency in silver and gold. They were, by analogy, to be distinguished as Tankas, and they would, in this peculiar application of the term, be the first gold and silver tankas that had ever been struck.

## XIV. NISĀRS.

The word 'Nisār' is derived from the triliteral root nasar,' to spread, to scatter. نِسَار (Nisār) says Steingass, signifies "spreading, scattering; نُسَار (Nusār) and نُسَارَات (Nusār-at), ' what is scattered, crumbs from the table; a small coin at weddings." (Arabic-English Dictionary, s.v.) The word is very commonly employed in the Mughal chronicles for coins, precious stones (and sometimes other articles also) waved round the head of the Emperor or other great personage and thrown among the crowd to scramble for at coronations, weddings, birthday anniversaries, royal entries and progresses through the great cities or other festive celebrations. The scattering or pouring of coins, the different kinds of cereals, sugar, milk, curds, etc. on the head of a newly-installed king or bride and bridegroom and the distribution of the same as largesse, appears to be one of those Pan-Asiatic customs of which traces are found in the most unexpected places and of which the origin is lost in remote antiquity (Cf. N. N. Law, 'Ancient Hindu Coronations and Allied Ceremonials, in Indian Antiquary, June 1919, p. 84 et seq.).<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Mr. Lane Poole notes that "all Shāh Jahān's Nisārs save one \* \* \* have an initial letter ن over the ج. The same sign (or its points) appears on Jahāndār's Nisar, but not on those of Aurangzeb or 'Ālamgīr II. This abbreviation has not hitherto been noticed, and its meaning is enigmatical" (B.M.C. Introd. lxxxvi). Can it be the sign of the feminine, the noun being of that gender in Arabic?

<sup>2</sup> It would appear from the Travels of the Chinese pilgrim Hiuen Tsiang who was in India about 630 A.C. that the Nisār of gold and silver among the crowd on certain religious festivals was an ancient Hindū custom "The King. Shilāditya" (i.e. The great Harsha of Kanauj, r. 606-648 A.C.), he writes, "as he went, scattered on every side pearls and various precious substances, with gold and silver flowers, in honour of the three precious objects of worship." (Buddhist Records of the Western World, Tr. Beal, I, 219) An earlier visitor from the same country, Fa hian, speaks of the fabrication of "gold and silver lotus flowers" by the King of the Kishka Country (Kāshgar or Lādak (*Ib.*, II, 299 Note) in his own day (Circa 400 A.C.) and for the same purpose. (*Ibid.*, I, Introd. xxviii.)

A 'Nisār' of pearls is one of the minor incidents in the description of the installation of Chandrapidā as Crown Prince in the 'Kādambarī' of Bāṇa, King Harsha's court-poet. "Then, at the roar of the drum, followed by an outcry of 'All hail'! from all sides," we read, "Chandrapidā came down from the throne. \* \* \* He left the hall of assembly, followed by a thousand chiefs, \* \* \* strewing on all sides the large pearls that fell from the strings of their necklaces, \* \* \* like rice sportively thrown as a good omen for their setting off to conquer the world." Trans. C. M. Ridding, 85-90.

The 'Niṣār' of silver and gold and gems on the head of a newly-crowned King or Conqueror is frequently described in Firdūsī's *Shāh-nāma* (Warner's Trans. II, 12 (Kaiqubād); II, 411 (Kaikhusrū); V, 310 (Dārāb), and is referred to in the *Mirāt-i-Sikandarī* (Bombay Lithograph 1831 A.C. p. 164, l. 16, Fāzil Lutfullah's Trans. 105) in connection with Sulṭān Muḥaf-far II's conquest of Mālwa.

The 'Niṣār' of Dinārs at the wedding of Farangiz is explicitly mentioned by Firdūsī (Warner, II, 275) and the custom is referred to in Jāmi's highly-coloured account of the marriage of Zūlaikḥā (Lith. Text, Chap. xxvi).

The African traveller Ibn Baṭūṭa informs us that he saw "dirhems and dinārs scattered among the people" at the marriage of the son and heir of the King of Sumatra. (Lee's Trans. 1829, p. 223.)

The kindness of kings on their coronation days is proverbial even in the matter-of-fact and never-too-lavish West. In the 'gorgeous East' the easiest way to win the good graces of the populace seems to have been the showering on their heads of 'barbaric' silver and gold. Firdūsī speaks of Kaikhusrū having "decked all the world with Dinārs" in his progress through Āzarbāijān (Warner, III, 20). The Musalmān historians of the 'Pathān' period have left it on record that 'Alāu-d-dīn Khiljī and Muḥammad 'Adalī employed military engines and catapults (منجانيق) for the purpose of showering "golden stars" and arrow-heads on the heads of the rabble of Dehli. (*Tārīkh-i-Firūzshāhī* in Elliot and Dowson, III, 158; Badāonī, Text, I, 418; Ranking, Trans. I, 537; Firishta, Tr. Briggs, II, 144.)

We learn from Ibn Baṭūṭa that Muḥammad Tughlaq poured upon the head of a famous theologian and traditionist with his own hand a vessel full of gold and gave away the vessel as well as the gold to him as largesse. (Lee's Trans. 41; *vide* also the extract in ED. III. 620.)

The custom was not unknown to the Mongols of Central Asia and we have at least two explicit notices of it in the account of Claviḡo's Embassy to the Court of Timūr. In his description of an entertainment at Court, the Spaniard writes: "After they [*scil.* the ambassadors] had eaten, one of the Meerzas of the Lord [*scil.* Timūr] came with a silver basin full of their silver coins, called Tagaes [*recte*, *Tankas* or *Tangas*], and they scattered them over the ambassadors, and over the rest of the company, and when they had done this, they put what was left into the skirts of their clothes." (Claviḡo's Embassy, Trans. Markham, Hakluyt Society's Publ. p. 139). And again, he says that at the close of another festive celebration, "they scattered pieces of money and small chaplets of thin gold amongst the people, and when the eating was over, the company returned to their lodgments." (*Ibid*, 146.)

It would appear that among the Chaghtāis, it was the practice to employ on such occasions not only silver coins and 'thin chaplets of gold', but miniature imitations in gold and silver, of fruits and flowers. These *recherché* specimens of the jeweller's art were showered at births and weddings, etc., on the heads and persons of the parties in whose honour the festival was held and distributed afterwards as largesse or presents. It is recorded in Bābur's diary of A.H. 900 [1494-5 A.C.] that his uncle Sultān Maḥmūd Mirzā sent an envoy to him with a gift of "gold and silver almonds and pistachios" from "the wedding he had made with splendid festivity for his eldest son" (*Memoirs*, Tr. A. S. Beveridge, 43 = Erskine, 27). The Emperor's daughter, the Princess Gulbadan tells us that Humāyūn's mother Māham had "gold and silver almonds, walnuts and filberts<sup>1</sup>" specially made for use as *Nisār* at the expected birth of a son and heir to Humāyūn, when she learnt that two of the latter's wives were in the family way. (*Humāyūn Nāma*, Trans. A. S. Beveridge, 112; Text, 27, l. 14) The scattering [*Nisār*] of trayfulls of 'Ashrafs' and 'Shāh-rukhīs' on the occasion of her brother Hindāl's wedding is also noticed by this charming authoress (Trans. 125; Text, 34, four lines from foot). Niẓāmu-d-dīn Ahmad specially notes the *Nisār* of coins at Akbar's coronation. (Lakhnau Lith. 243.)

Badāonī speaks of نثار , انثار in connection with the marriage of Bairam Khān to Salima Sultān Begam (Text, II, 20; Lowe, Tr. 13), of the 'Nisār' of pearls on Akbar's head by Mun'im Khān Khān-i Khānān when the Emperor alighted in the latter's camp before Patna (Text, II, 179; Lowe, Tr. II, 182), and of the scattering of "dishfulls of gold and jewels to the people" by Quṭbu-d-dīn Khān at a feast held in honour of the latter's appointment as Tutor to the Prince Salīm, (Text, II, 270; Lowe, 278.) He also states that when the heir-apparent was married to the daughter of Rāja Bhagwān-dās, the Emperor "ordered gold to be scattered over the litter [پالکی] of the Princess all the way from the Rāja's house to the palace" (Text, 341; Lowe. 352) and this last fact is also mentioned in the *Akbarnāma* of Abūl Fazl, Text, III, 451, l. 14; Tr. III. 678)

Coming down to the reign of Jahāngir, we find that ruler recording with great minuteness and self-complaisance the exact number of rupees worth of *Darbs*, *Charans* and other fractional coins [زر و رنگی] which he scattered among the crowd when entering, passing through or leaving the great

<sup>1</sup> I take پسته as a noun meaning 'filberts' (see Steingass' Dict. s.v.) and not as a participle signifying 'packed' as Mrs. Beveridge has done.

towns in his dominions. "On Thursday the 17th [Safar 1016 A.H.], he writes, "from the Mastān bridge as far as the Shahr-ārā garden [in the city of Kābul] which was the encamping place of the royal standards, scattering rupees, half-rupees and quarter-rupees [روپہ و نصف و ربع آن] to faqirs and indigent persons on both sides of the road, I entered the aforesaid garden." (*Tūzuk*, Text, 51, ll. 4-6; Tr. I, 105). And again, we read: "At an auspicious hour [5 Farwardīn III R.], I returned towards Āgra, and scattering with two hands 5,000 rupees in small coins [مولیٰ پنچہزار روپہ از روزگی از دو دست] entered the august palace which was inside the fort." (*Ibid.*, Text, 66, l. 16; Tr. I, 139.)

There are several other notices of the same sort, to which it will suffice to give only references. They will be found at Vol. I, pp. 249, 359, 382, 415, 417, 426, 428 432, and Vol. II, pp. 9, 31, 84, 187, 194 of Messrs. Rogers and Beveridge's Translation. They are merely illustrations of the more or less profuse distribution of largesse on the part of the Emperor during official visits or imperial progresses. The following four passages are more interesting and give us some insight into the origin, rationale or idea underlying the custom.

"In his [*scil.* the Prince Khurram or Shāh Jahān's] honour [after his return from the victorious campaign in the Dekkan], I myself came down from the Jharokha and poured over his head a small tray of jewels and a tray of gold (coins). [خوانچہ از جواهر و خوانی زر بر سر او نثار کردم]

Having called Sarnāk the elephant to me I saw without doubt that what had been heard in its praise and of its beauty was real. \* \* \* As it appeared acceptable to me, I myself mounted (*i.e.* drove it) and took it into my private palace, and scattered a quantity of gold coins on its head" [20 Mīhr XII, R.; *Tūzuk*, Text, 195, six lines from foot] [پارہ از زر بر سر او نثار کردم] (Tr. I, 395-6.)

Elsewhere, we hear of a similar ceremony having been gone through in honour of the Empress Nūr Jahān. That talented and versatile lady had on one occasion killed four tigers in a single day with only six shots, from her seat in a howdah. Jahāngīr was charmed and informs us that "as a reward for this good shooting," he "gave her a pair of bracelets (*pahunchi*) of diamonds worth 1,00,000 rupees and scattered 1,000 *ashrafis* over her" [ہزار اشرفی نثار نموده]

(Text, 186, l. 5, Tr. I, 375.)

The two extracts which follow illustrate another form of Nisār—that connected with the weighment of the Emperor's person on the solar or lunar anniversaries of his birth.

"After the conclusion of the weighment [A.H. 1030, XVI

R.], trays of gold and silver were poured out by way of *Nisār* (coin-scattering) into the hope-skirts of the ministers of amusement (*ahl-i-nishāt*) and of the poor. [ارباب استحقاق] Text, 325, l. 17; Tr. II, 215.

Again we read: "On the same day [21st Shahrivar XIII, R.], the feast of my solar weightment took place and according to solar reckoning, the fiftieth year of the age of this suppliant at the throne of God commenced auspiciously. According to my usual rule, I weighed myself against gold and other valuables. I scattered pearls and golden roses (گل زرین) and looking at night at the show of lamps passed my time in the private apartments of the royal abode in enjoyment." (Text, 241, l. 22; Tr. II, 31.)

These passages seem to show that the *Nisār* was a form of sacrifice, an offering to Nemesis, a means of deprecating the anger or envy of the gods at sudden or unprecedented good fortune, a charm for averting the evil eye or a thank-offering.

It will be observed that in the fourth or last of these excerpts there is a reference to the *Nisār* of "golden roses," i.e. imitations in gold of natural flowers. Jahāngīr records the fact in his account of the *Jashn* or festival celebrated on his fiftieth birthday on 21st Shahrivar, XIII R. corresponding, as he himself says, to 22 Ramzān 1027 A.H. (2 September, 1618 A.C.) Now, Sir Thomas Roe was present at an exactly similar function in the year immediately preceding and there is a very graphic description of it in his Journal. "September 1 [1617] was the King's birth-day, and the solemnities of his weighing, to which I went \* \* \* After he was weighed, he ascended his throne, and had basons of nuts, almonds, fruits, spices of all sorts made in thinne silver, which he cast about, and his greate men scrambled prostrate upon their bellies; whiche seeing I did not, hee reached one Bason almost full and poured into my Cloke. His Noblemen were so bold as to put in their hands, so thicke that they had left me none if I had not put the remayner up. I heard he threw *gold* [nuts, almonds, etc.] till I came in but found it silver so thinne, that all I had at first, being thousands of severall pieces had not weighed Sixtie Rupias. I saved about Twentie Rupias weight, yet a good dishfull, which I keepe to show the ostentation: for by my proportion he could not that day have cast away above one hundred pound sterling." (Embassy, Ed Foster, II, 411-3.)

An earlier entry on September 2, 1616 A.C. is much more lengthy, but a couple of sentences will bear citation: "This day was the Birth of the King, and solemnised as a great feast wherein the King is weighed against some jewelles, gould, silver, stuff off goulds [and ?] silver, silke, butter, rice, frute

and many other things, of every sort a little, which is given to the Bramini \* \* \* \* Then hee threw about to those that stood below, two Chargers of new rupyes and among us two chargers of *hollow almondes* of *gould* and silver mingled ; but I would not scramble as did his great men ; for I saw his sonne tooke up none. (*Ibid.*, I, 257.)

The Nigār of imitation *fruits* in the precious metals was, as I have already pointed out, an ancient Mongol custom, and the English ambassador's account confirms the statements occurring in the Journals of Bābur and the Princess Gulbadan on the subject. But it would appear from the foregoing extract from the *Tūzūk-i-Jahāngīrī* that similar representations in miniature of *flowers* also were fabricated and this is supported by a curious passage in the *Bādishāhnāma* of 'Abdul Hamīd. In his description of the eight-days' festivities and rejoicings with which Shāh Jahān celebrated the recovery of his favourite daughter the Begam Jahānārā from the effects of an accident, in 1054 A.H. (1645 A.C.), this author writes :—

"In these [eight] days, riches ( زر ) were scattered ( نثار ) over her eight times every day and the total amounted to 70000 rupees, viz. 30000 rupees worth of jewels and vessels inlaid with precious stones ; one thousand whole muhrs and 1000 muhrs' weight of half-muhrs called *Dhan* and of quarter-muhrs called *Charn* of the [combined] value of twenty-eight thousand rupees ; two thousand rupees worth of *golden flowers* ( گلپسای طلا ) were made for *Nigār* ; ten thousand 'rupees' worth of whole rupees, and half-rupees which are called *Darb*, and quarter-rupees which are styled *Nisār*, together with *imitations in silver* [ نمانهای نقره ] of various kinds of *fruits*." <sup>1</sup>

Bibl. Ind. Text, II, 396, ll. 13–20.

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<sup>1</sup> William Terry and other European writers confirm this: Sir Thomas Roe's chaplain writes: "When the Mogul is thus weighed, he casts about among the standers by, thin pieces of silver, and some of gold, made like flowers of that country, and some of them are made like cloves, and some like nutmegs, but very thin and hollow" (A Voyage to East-India, Ed. 1777, p. 377).

Sebastian Manrique who was at Shāh Jahān's Court about 1641 A.C. has a fuller description. "This valuation and commutation and weighing ceremony over, the Emperor returns to his throne ; and being seated on it, the dusky Eunuchs present him large dishes and vessels of gold, full of artificial and imitation fruits made of silver, such as almonds, nuts, hazelnuts and many other sorts and kinds of fruits, all of them so very lightly made that I believe that a-thousand of these silver fruits would not weigh twenty-five or thirty Spanish pesos, and I found it out, because, being given on that occasion a large plate of them by Mirzā Aboulhossen, they just weighed eleven rupees which would be five pesos and a half of our money. The Padcha distributed these fruits among the Princes and Magnates, and afterwards he sent and distributed to those

This is not all. There is in the late Mr. Irvine's valuable monograph on the 'Later Mughals' a casual reference which shows that silver roses were scattered at the coronation of Farrukh-siyar. Mirzā Muḥammad, the author of a *Tazkara* sometimes called *Ibratnāma* and Khushhāl Chand, the compiler of the *Nādiru z-zamānī* witnessed the triumphal entry of the emperor into Dehli and the latter says that "into the skirt of this humble one, too, fell a silver rose, weighing seven māshas." (Journal, A.S.B. 1898, p. 151, Note.)

It will be noticed that in all except one of these passages, the word 'Niṣār' is used for the act of scattering, or showering or the things scattered or showered, coins, gems, imitation fruits and flowers in the precious metals, etc. And this was undoubtedly the usual meaning of the term. The Emperor Jahāngīr, however, gave the word a specific signification and *Niṣārī* was the new name which he invented for the quarter-rupee (*Tūzuk*, Tr. I, 11) very soon after his accession. It is true that this neologism does not appear to have had general vogue. The Emperor himself never uses it again in that sense in his Memoirs, and always gives to the quarter-rupee its Akbarī name of *Charn*.<sup>1</sup> It would appear from the passage just cited from the *Bādishāhnāma* that the new name had not

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of inferior rank some vessels filled with *rupees recently coined*, ten thousand or twelve thousand at the maximum, which would amount to no more than 6000 pesos or reals of eight." The Travels of Fray Sebastian Manrique, Trans. by [Sir] E. D. MacLagan in Journal of the Panjāb Historical Society, Vol. I, 1411, pp. 96-7.

The French merchant Thevenot also tells us in his account of the 'Festival of the Kings' Birth-day' that "the King distributes, first a great quantity Artificial Fruit and other Knacks of Gold and Silver, which are brought to him in Golden Basins; but the Knacks are so light, that the profusion (which he makes in casting them promiscuously amongst the Princes, and other Great men of his court, who crowd one another to have their share), lessens not the Treasure of his Exchequer; for I was assured that all these trifles would not cost one hundred thousand Crowns." (Travels, Eng. Trans. of 1687. Part III, p. 47.) It may be noted that Akbar had small gold coins struck weighing as much as the fifth, sixteenth and thirty-second parts of the gold Muhr, which displayed on one or both sides "the figure of a wild rose." (*Āin*, Tr. Blochmann, I, 30.)

<sup>1</sup> "On Friday, the 7th of the aforesaid month" [Ardebilshat], we read in the diary of the XIIth year \* \* \*, "I entered the city of Ahmadābād \* \* \* At the time of mounting my son of prosperous fortune, Shāh Jahān had brought 20000 *Charans* or Rs. 5000 for the Niṣār (Scattering), *باشد هزار چرن که پنج هزار روپيه باشد* and I scattered them as I went to the palace.

*Tūzuk*, Tr. II, 9; Text, 229, l. 22.

And again he informs us: "At the request of Qāsim K[hān], I went to his garden in the neighbourhood of the city [Āgra] and in the course of the procession scattered [نثار کردم] 10000 *Charans* [XV R.—Muharram 1030 A.H.]. *Ibid.*, II, 187; Text, 320, l. 22. See also *ibid.*, Tr. II, 194, 198, for two other references to the word.



altogether passed into oblivion, but the quarter-rupee is not referred to as 'Niṣārī' by any other writer known to me.

But this notwithstanding, the Emperor's statement has, among modern numismatists, produced an impression that the true Nisār weighed and ought to weigh as much only as the fourth part of the rupee, i.e. about 45 grains and any specimens deviating from this norm have been regarded as irregularities or freaks or described in Coin-Catalogues as half-niṣārs and quarter-niṣārs.

All things considered, (this Emperor's capricious and transient alterations in weights, measures, and style of coins, his fondness for change and unstable character), it is a question whether we are justified in laying so much stress on a terminological novelty, the popularity or currency of which there are no grounds for assuming. The better opinion would appear to be that all gold or silver pieces which bore a general resemblance in size, weight and fabric to the current coins of the realm but which were specially struck on a particular occasion for being scattered or scrambled for by the people in the streets or by the courtiers and other persons having the entry to the Imperial levees, darbārs and entertainments were, for that reason, called Niṣārs. The actual weight did not matter. We know from the *Tūzūk* as well as the *Bādi-shāhnāma* that it was usual to scatter not only *Charns* or quarter rupees, but *Darbs* (half rupees) and even whole rupees. In this view, there is nothing irregular or extraordinary about the weight of the exceedingly rare Nisārs weighing 86 and 88 grs which are in the Dehli and British Museums. (Proc. A.S.B. 1883, p. 112; B.M.C. No. 669.) For the same reason, all the dainty little pieces of which the weights "do not correspond with any fraction of the rupee expressed by the usual powers of two" (P.M.C. Introd. xxv) are true *Nisārs*, and when they display the denomination on the obverse, are *rightly* so-called. The truth of the matter, perhaps, is that it was neither intended nor thought necessary to maintain any constancy in weights or any fixed relation whatever to the amount of silver (or gold) in the rupee (or the muhr). The object was merely to turn out as many small pieces as would meet the requirements of the occasion and serve to make a goodly show.

The size, thickness and weight were dependent, not on any determinate subordinate relation to the gold or silver unit, but on the amount of money which the imperial or other donor was willing to give away as largesse in connection with the particular function or ceremony and the fractional subdivision was regulated accordingly.

All the passages cited in this article naturally refer to royal marriages and birthday-anniversaries or Imperial processions and progresses. But the custom itself is almost universal

in the East and may be witnessed even in our own days at weddings in respectable Musalmān families (Proc. A.S.B. 1883. p. 13). We learn from Fryer's Chapter on the 'Solemnities. Sports and Pastimes' of the Moguls, that on the Ramzān 'Id, the anniversary of "the Great Mogul's Advancement to the Throne" and other festivals. "the Governor goes in Procession, and bestows his Largeesse in his passage to the Chief Place of Devotion, liberally scattering Rupees as Kings do Medals at their Coronations, waited on by all the Gallants of the Town." (A New Account, etc., Ed. 1698, p. 107.) The traveller speaks only of rupees but we may be sure that pieces of smaller denominations were much more frequently used and that some, at least, of the *Niṣārs* in our public and private collections were struck by the special orders of the provincial authorities on such occasions. We possess *Niṣārs* struck in the name of Shāh Jahān at Akbarnagar (P.M.C. Introd. xliii, Bleazby), and Pl. XXI No. 16, (Cabinet de France) and Patna (*ib.*, Introd. lxii). Aurangzeb's *Niṣārs* of Itāwa (*ib.*, xxviii, H. N. Wright). Chināpattan (B.M.C. 715) and Jahāngīrnagar (Num. Sup. XXVII, No. 13) are also known. Now it may be said with confidence that none of these towns was ever visited by either of the Emperors mentioned *during the period of his reign*. The conclusion is thus forced upon us that these interesting pieces were struck in the provincial mints for doing duty as *Niṣārs* at the local celebration of an Imperial festival or of some remarkable event in the history of the town or province.

It may be as well to add that a close study of the Mughal chronicles enables us to connect some of the dated *Niṣārs* minted at Ajmer, Aḥmadābād, Aḥmadnagar, Āgra, Burhānpūr, Bijāpūr, Shāhjahānābād, Kābul, Kashmīr and Lāhor with the visits or residence in those places of the Emperors whose names they bear. But the *Niṣār* ceremony itself was so common, an event of such frequent occurrence, that it is impossible to go much further or associate any of them with a particular incident in the history of the Empire or the Imperial family.

## XV. THE TŪMĀN.

No student of the contemporary chronicles of Bābur and his descendants could have failed to notice that there are numerous allusions in them to the Tūmān of 'Irāq or Khurāsān. It might be thought that passages relating to a *Persian money of account* were hardly worth studying, and that they could not possibly throw any light on the obscure problems of Mughal numismatics. But the notion is soon discovered to be groundless. It becomes clear that several of these references are exceedingly useful for elucidating the vexed and difficult question of the value of Akbar's 'Tanka.' It is also found that they serve to illustrate a fact which no student of old currencies should forget—the progressive deterioration in the value of monetary denominations. Indeed, it will be seen that in reference to the gradual depreciation of the Tūmān, they furnish evidence which is more circumstantial and complete than the statements which are to be found in the writings of European visitors to Persia.

The primary signification, in Mongol, of the word 'tūmān' is 'a myriad' or 'ten thousand,' and it is frequently employed in the Mongol histories in the secondary sense of 'brigade' or 'division of cavalry amounting in theory or as a matter of fact, to that number.' (Yule's *Marco Polo*, Ed. Cordier, I, 261 and Note; Friar Odoric in Yule, *Cathay and the Way Thither*, I, 117, 152; Ibn Baṭūṭa in *ibid.*, II, 506.) It then appears to have been used for a sum of money amounting to 10,000 *dīnārs*, each *dīnār* being equivalent to six *dirhams*. (Shihābu-d-dīn Dimishqī, *Masāliku-l-Absār*, quoted in Yule and Burnell, *Hobson-Jobson*, Ed. Crooke, 929.) This last meaning is given, with a not unimportant variation in the Persian Arabic-English Dictionary of John Richardson (Edition of 1803), who defines it as "a sum of money equal to 10000 Arabic *silver drachms*, which are about one third less than those of the Greeks; also a sum of money equal to fifteen dollars and a half." This explanation is reproduced *verbatim* in the Persian-English Dictionary of Steingass. It will be observed that we have *dirhams* here instead of 'dīnārs.'

The Emperor Bābur informs us in his 'Memoirs' that Sultān Mas'ūd Mirzā showed "excessive favour to his father-in-law, Shaikh 'Abdu'l-lāh Bariās," and 'made the Shaikh's

<sup>1</sup> In this second sense, the Tūmān would seem to be the Mongol equivalent of the Arabic *Badra*, which means 'a square piece of cloth or leather filled with coin and tied up as a purse; bag; a weight of 10,000 *dirhams* or 7,000 *dīnārs*.' (Steingass, s.v.).

allowance 1,000 *tumāns of fulūs*.<sup>1</sup> A. S. Beveridge's Trans. 93=Leyden and Erskine's Trans. 61. Persian Trans. Bombay Lithograph, 1308 A.H., p 37, l. 12.

Here the word would seem to be used in the primary sense of 'ten thousand,' and one thousand '*tumāns of fulūs*' would be equal to ten million *fulūs*—the *fulūs* being, probably, some monetary unit or money of account of *exceedingly* low value.

Elsewhere he tells us that he made an incursion into *Khurāsān* in 912 A.H. [1506-7 A.C.], and "laid an impost on the Turks and clans of those parts [*Bādghis*], in two or three months taking perhaps 300 *tumāns of Kipki*."<sup>2</sup> (*Op. cit.*, 296=Leyden and Erskine, 201; Persian Trans. 117, l. 19.)

Mrs. Beveridge confesses her inability to explain the phrase and merely says that "the nearest approach to *Kipki* she has found in Dictionaries, is *Kupaki*, which comes close to the Russian Copeck."<sup>3</sup> (*Ibid.*, Note.) Nothing is so deceptive as phonetic resemblances and it would be exceedingly hazardous to postulate any etymological affinity between Copeck and the *Tumān-i-kipki* of *Bābur*, or the *Dinār-i-kapakī* or *kabakī*, which is so frequently mentioned in the *Ẓafarnāma* of *Sharfu-d-dīn* (I, 434, 497, 504, 645, 662, 754, 776) and other histories of *Timūr* and his descendants; *Rauzat-u-s-Safā*, (Bombay Lithograph, II, Sect. VI); *Habibu-s-siyar* (Bombay Lith., III. iii, 73, ll. 11, 17). What this *Dinār-i-kapakī* was really worth, none of these authors has anywhere cared to explain, but I have found, in the *Maḥallā'u-s-Sa'daīn* of 'Abdu-Razzāq, a passage which throws some light on the matter. In his description of the city of *Vijayanagar*, this author writes:—

"On the left of the palace there is the mint, where they stamp three different kinds of gold coins mixed with alloy.

<sup>1</sup> The rendering in the earlier Translation of Leyden and Erskine is "a thousand tumans in money," but Mrs. Beveridge's version appears to be both more literal, and more accurate

<sup>2</sup> The *Tūmān-i-Kabakī* is mentioned once in the *Ẓafarnāma* of *Sharfu-d-dīn*. He says that when the city of *Shīrāz* capitulated to *Timūr*, the ransom was fixed at one thousand *Tūmān-i-Kabakī* (*Bibl. Ind. Ed. I, 437, l. 13*).

<sup>3</sup> The learned authors of 'Hobson Jobson' were inclined to take this view and to "suspect that this name [*Scil.* Copeck] preserved that of the *dīnār kopeki*. \* \* Kopek is in *Turki*, 'dog,' and *Charmoy* explains the term as equivalent to *Abu-Kalb*, 'Father of a dog', formerly applied in *Egypt* to Dutch Crowns (*Löwenthaler*) bearing a lion \* \* \* Another etymology of *Kopek* \* \* \* is from *Russ. Kopyó, Kopyó*, a pike, many old Russian coins representing the Prince on horseback with a spear." The latter etymology is the one given in the *New English Dictionary*, but the *Dinār-i-Kapakī* could have scarcely originated from the Copeck as the latter denomination is first "mentioned only in the reign of *Vassili III*, about middle of the 15th century, and became regularly established in the coinage" only about 1536 A.C. (*Yule and Burnell, op. cit.*, Ed. Crooke, p. 253). *Timūr* died in 1408 A.C.

One is called *Varāha*, and weighs about one *miskāl*, equal to two *Kopaki dinārs*. The second kind is called *partāb*, and is equal to half of the first." Elliot and Dowson, IV, 109.

There are some difficulties about the identification of these coins. "The Envoy of Sultan Shāhrukh makes the *Partāb* (the *Pardao* of the Portuguese) half of the *Varāha* Hūn, or what we call Pagoda. But Varthema (1504-5 A.C.) identifies the *partāb*, i.e., *pardao* with the pagoda itself, "The question arises whether the *Varāha* of Abdurrazzak was the double pagoda \* \* \* and his *partāb* therefore the same as Varthema's, i.e. the pagoda itself; or whether his *Varāha* was the pagoda and his *partāb* a half pagoda. The weight which he assigns to the *Varāha*, about one *Mithkāl*, a weight which may be taken at 73 grs., does not well suit either one or the other. I find the mean weight of 27 different issues of the single *hun* or pagoda, given in Prinsep's Tables to be 43 grs., the maximum being 45 grs. And the fact that both the Envoy's *Varāha* and the Italian traveller's *pardao* contain 20 fanams is a strong argument for their identity." Yule and Burnell, Hobson-Jobson, Ed Crooke, 673-4.

Now the weight of the *miṣqāl* was, as I have elsewhere shown, by no means uniform and differed considerably at different times and in different places. It was generally said to be  $\frac{1}{2}$  of an ounce (Troy), and Ball estimates Tavernier's *miṣqāl* at 83.8 grs. troy (Tavernier's Travels in India, I, 418). This would be very close to the weight of two single pagodas of the average weight of 43 grs. each and considerably reinforce the argument for the identity of 'Abdu-r-razzāq's *Varāha* with the "Double pagoda, of which there are some examples in the South Indian Coinage." But if 'Abdu-r-razzāq's *Varāha* was the double pagoda, and if this *varāha* was also "equal to two *Kopaki dinārs*," the *dinār-i-Kapaki* (or *Kabaki* or *Kipaki* or *Kupaki*) of Tīmūr's historians must have been a gold coin having almost the same weight as the single *hun* or pagoda of Southern India, the Venetian ducat and the Egyptian sequin—about 43 grs. Whether the *Tumān-i-kiṭki* of Bābur was the same or not, it is impossible to say.

Leaving this complicated if not insoluble question which is scarcely within the scope of this enquiry to other scholars, I may note that the *Tūmān* of Persia is twice mentioned by Jauhar in his narrative of Humāyūn's sojourn in that country.

"Some time after this nefarious transaction, Shāh Tahmāsp ordered a hunting party, and ordered Cazy Jehan to attend his Majesty. In the course of three days a great number of animals were surrounded and many of them killed; but it so happened that several deer made their escape at the part of the circle where we were; for each of which the Persian demanded a *fine* of a horse and one *Tumān*." *Tezkereh Al Vākiāt*, Tr. C. Stewart, 1832, p. 66.

Elsewhere, he tells a long story of "an unfortunate difference" between Humāyūn and Qarāja Khān, which originated in the latter having one day "urged the king to confer ten *Tumāns* (the trifling sum of ten pounds) on a certain officer." *Ibid.*, 88.

It is perhaps necessary to say that the words in brackets are the translator's unauthorized gloss, and that Jauhar himself tells us nothing as to the value of the Persian *tūmān*. Abūl Faḡl is, as usual, more informing. He has transcribed in the first volume of the *Akbarnāma*, the long *Farmān* or Rescript addressed by Shāh Tahmāsp to the Governor of Khurāsān giving minute directions as to the ceremonial to be observed in the matter of Humāyūn's reception and entertainment.

In this contemporary document, the phrase 'Tabrizi *tumāns*' arrests attention three times (*op. cit.*, Trans. H. Beveridge, I, 424, 425, 428), and in one place it is explicitly stated that "three Tabrizi *tumāns* are equal to 600 Shāhī." (*Ibid.*, I, 428.) Mr. Beveridge, in a footnote warns his readers that "the figures in the text are doubtful," and questions the accuracy of the equation. I shall presently show that it is, so far as it goes, perfectly reliable and that there are no grounds for doubting the correctness of the Bibliotheca Indica reading of the passage. The *tūmān* has been always reckoned as equivalent to 200 shāhīs in Persia and there is a consensus on the point among the European travellers in that country which absolutely clinches the question.

Olearius says that "when they [*i.e.* the Persians] are to account by great sums, they account by *Tumāns*, each whereof is worth fifty *Abas's*" and that the "*Schahī* was worth the fourth part of an *Abas*." (*Voyages and Travels of the Ambassadors of the Duke of Holstein*. Tr. John Davies, 1669, p. 223). Sir Thomas Herbert informs us that the 'Abbassee' was worth sixteen pence, the shahee four pence, and that 3,57,000 *Tomāns* in Persian money were equal to about 11,90,000 pounds sterling. (*Travels*, 3rd Impression, 1665, p. 329.) In other words, the 'Tomān' was equal to £3 6s 8d or 800 pence, or 200 shāhīs at 4 pence to the shāhī. Fryer also says that "Fifty Abbasces make a Thomand £3 6s 8d" (*i.e.* 800 pence), that a "Shahee is Four pence or equal to our Groat," that an "Abassee makes two Mamoodies," and that "a Mamoody is two shahees." (*A New Account of East India and Persia*, Ed 1698, p. 407.) This also makes the *tūmān* equal to 200 shāhīs. Identical statements may be found in Tavernier (Ed. Ball., I. 24), Thevenot, (*Travels into the Levant*, Ed. 1687, Part II, p. 89), and Lockyer (*Account of the Trade in India*, 1711, p. 229).

But though the equation enunciated in Shāh Tahmāsp's *farmān* is unexceptionable and though the *Tūmān* is even now,

as it was then, equivalent to 200 *shāhis*, this does not give us any distinct idea as to the value of the denomination in Indian or European money. This information also is given by Abūl Fazl in a passage which I will now proceed to quote. He records in his chronicle of the seventh year of Akbar's reign (969-970 A.H., 1562-3 A.C.) that Shāh Tahmāsp sent his own cousin, Saiyid Beg, with letters conveying condolences for the death of Humāyūn and congratulations on Akbar's accession. "When the ambassador came near the capital, His Majesty ordered that several distinguished officers should go out to welcome him and should conduct him to a suitable residence. He also sent fourteen lacs of *dāms* which are equal to seven hundred Persian *tomāns* together with other things for his maintenance." (*Akbarnāma*, Trans. Beveridge, II, 262; Bibl. Ind. Text, II, 170, l. 13.)

Now, if 14 lacs of *dāms* were equal to 700 *tomāns*, it is clear that one *tomān* was equal to 2,000 *dāms*, or 50 Akbari rupees, at the rate of 40 *dāms* to the rupee, in 969-970 A.H. (1562-3 A.C.).

I must now state that there is an account of Saiyid Beg's embassy in the histories of Nizāmu-d-dīn and Badāonī also. In Dowson's translation of the *Tabaqāt-i-Akbarī* we read: "When Saiyid Beg approached Āgra, many Khāns and great men were sent forth to meet him, and to bring him into the city with suitable honours. The sum of seven lacs of *tankas* was appropriated to him." (Elliot and Dowson, Hist. of India, V, 276. Lakhnau Lithograph, 1202 A.H., p 257, l. 13.) Badāonī also says that the "Emperor presented him with a sum of seven lacs of *tankahs*." (Lowe's Trans. II, 49; Bibl. Ind. Text, II, 52, l. 12.)

I need scarcely point out that the last three passages are of peculiar interest for their bearing on the meaning of the word '*tanka*.' Abūl Fazl says that Saiyid Beg was given 14 lacs of *dāms*. Nizāmu d-dīn and Badāonī declare that he was given 7 lacs of *tankas*. It is clear the last two writers are on this occasion, using the word '*tanka*' although it has no qualifying epithet, for a coin or money of account equal to two *dāms*.

Leaving the question of the *tanka* aside, for the present, it is clear that in the seventh year of Akbar's reign (969-970 A.H.) the Persian *tūmān* was reckoned by Abūl Fazl as equivalent to about 50 Akbari rupees. When he wrote the *Aīn-i-Akbarī*, in or about the 42nd year (1005-1006 A.H.), it would appear to have undergone some depreciation, for we come across the following brief, but precise statement in his account of the Sarkār of Qandahār.

"Eighteen *dīnārs* make a *tumān*, and each *tumān* is equivalent to 800 *dāms*. The *tumān* of Khurāsān is equal in value to 30 rupees and the *tumān* of Irāq to 40." (*Aīn*, Trans. Jarrett, II, 393-4. Bibl. Ind. Text, I, 586. l. 17.)

Two things stand out clearly from the foregoing :—

I. The value of the *tūmān* was not at all fixed, and varied according to locality. The *tūmān* of Qandahār was reckoned at 800 dāms, that is, only 20 Rupees Akbarī; the *tūmān* of Khurāsān was rated at 30, and the *tūmān* of 'Irāq had the still higher value of 40.

The 'tūmān of 'Irāq' is also estimated at 40 Rupees in three monetary statements occurring in the *Tabaqāt-i-Akbarī*, one of which is found also in the *Muntakhabu-t-tawārīkh* of Badāonī. (Bibl. Ind. Text, II, 352, ll. 15-17; Lowe's Trans. II, 363.) As these passages have been transcribed and fully discussed in my Note on the *Murādī Tanka* (Num. Sup. XXVIII, pp. 83-7), it will suffice here to give only their purport and references to the page and volume in which they will be found. From one of them we learn that Akbar ordered the debts of two of his faithful dependants to be paid out of the public treasury, though they amounted to one lac of Akbarshāhī rupees equal to two thousand five hundred *tūmāns* of 'Irāq (Elliot and Dowson, V, 370-1). We are informed in the second, that some presents sent to 'Abdulla Khān Uzbek were of the value of "nearly a lac and a half of rupees, equal to three thousand seven hundred *tūmāns* of 'Irāq." (*Ibid.*, V, 455.) Lastly, Niẓāmu-d-dīn tells us (followed by Badāonī), that Akbar gave to Nazar Bey and his sons as a present "four lacs of *murādī tankas*, which are equivalent to five hundred *tūmāns* of 'Irāq" (*Ibid.*, V, 453; Lakhnau Lithograph, p. 370, ll. 3-5; Badāonī, Bibl. Ind. Text, II, 352, Lowe II, 363.)

II. This brings me to the *second* point. It is evident that the value of the *tūmān* had, for some reason, gone down within the preceding thirty-five years. The 'Tūmān of 'Irāq' was now (1597-8 A.C.) rated by Abūl Fazl at 40 rupees, and that of Khurāsān at only 30, though he himself had formerly reckoned the Persian *Tūmān* at 50.

Stewart has, in his translation of Jauhar's 'Memoirs,' given a lengthy extract from the *Tārīkh-i 'Ālam Arāī e-'Abbāsī* which was completed in 1616 A.C. by Iskandar Munshī. The writer says that Asbeg [Uzbek] Beg who was sent as ambassador by the Grand Signior to Shāh Tahmāsp of Persia about 969 A.H. brought along with 40 Syrian and Arabian horses "the sum of 5,00,000 *Falory ashrafies*, equal in the currency of Persia, to 50,000 royal *Irāky tōmans*." (*Op. cit.* Appendix, 125.)

Now there can be little doubt that the 'Falory ashrafie' is to be traced to 'Florin.' Mr. Stanley Lane Poole writes: "After the conquest of Constantinople, Mohammad II, for the first time issued in 883 [A.H.] the gold coin called *altun*, or more generally by numismatists *Sequin*. Previously foreign gold coins, especially the Venetian ducat, had sufficed for the



Turkish currency \* \* \*. The *altun*, or *Sultany altun*, was known by various other names, according to the predominant foreign commercial influence: under Western influence it was called *flūry* (florin); under Persian, *Shāhy*; and after the conquest of Egypt, the name *Ashrafy*, or *Sherīfy* which had been given to the improved coinage of El-Ashraf Barsabay, was transferred to the issues of the Constantinopolitan mint.

\* \* \* Hitherto [*scil.* 1123 A.H.], the *altuns* had weighed about 53 grs., sometimes rather more, and often a few grains less." (Weights and Denominations of Turkish Coins, Numismatic Chronicle, 1882, pp. 167-8.) Now 53 grains is nearly one-third of 165 grs., the *ordinary* weight of the Muhr of Akbar and Jahāngīr. We know that this '*Adlgutka* muhr of 11 māshas was worth about 9 Rs, when Abūl Fazl wrote his *Āin*, about the 42nd year of Akbar's reign (*Āin*, Trans Blochmann, I, 30) and that in the first part of Jahāngīr's reign, it was valued at about *ten* rupees (Hawkins Voyages, Ed. Markham, 421). The Turkish '*falory*' must have therefore been equivalent to *about* 3 or 3½ rupees. But as 5,00,000 '*Falory ashrafies*' are said to have been equal to about 50 000 Irākī tomāns' in the time of the writer (about 1616 A.C.), the Irākī tomān' must have fallen in value at the time to 30 or 33½ rupees.

Or to take another gauge, Mr. Lane Poole informs us that the *Altun*, or *Flūry* was identical with the coin more generally known as *Sequin*. Now, Richard Steele in his '*Memoirandum on the Moneys, Weights and Measures of Persia*' says that the *Cheken* [*Sequin*] of Venetia was worth "20 *Shāhyes*" in 1615 A.C. (Letters Received by the East India Company, Ed Foster, III, 176.) Now, the *Shāhi* is generally estimated as equal to about 4*d* of English money, so the *Sequin* or '*Cheken*' would be worth 6*s* 8*d* and if the *Tūman* was equal to 10 *Falorys* or *Sequins*, its value would be £3 6*s* 8*d* or *about* 30 Rs. at 2*s* 3*d* to the rupee.

This is what can be gleaned from the '*Memoirs*' of Bābur, Jauhar and the historians of Akbar. The twenty extracts which follow are from the '*Autobiography*' of Jahāngīr and the contemporary Annals of the reigns of Shāh Jahān, and Aurangzeb.

(i) "It [*scil.* the fort of Āgra] had four gates and two sally-ports and its cost was 35 lakhs of rupees', equal to 1,15,000

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<sup>1</sup> The original figure "35 lakhs of rupees" is taken from the "*Hatt Iqlīm*" of Amīn Ahmad Rāzī who says in his account of Āgra that the building of the fort cost "Seven krors of *tankas* which are equivalent to thirty-five laks of rupees." هفت کرور تنگه که سی و پنج لک روپیه باشد (Manuscript).

The statement occurs in the '*Third Iqlīm*' or Section of the work which was completed in 1002 A.H. The author was a great traveller and

tomān of current Persian coinage [ راجع ارباب ] and to 1,05,00,000

*khānī* according to the Tūrān reckoning."

*Tūzūk-i Jahāngīrī*, Trans. Rogers and Beveridge, I, 3; Sayyad Aḥmad Khān's Text, p. 2, l. 9.

(ii) On each of the gates [*scil.* of the fortress of Rohtās in the Salt Range, Panjāb], they have carved on a stone the cost of erecting the fort; 16 kror, 10 lakhs of dāms and more [ وکسری ] were expended, equal in Hindustan reckoning to 40,25,000 rupees, and according to the currency [ داد و سند ] of Irān to 1,20,000 tūman, and in the currency of Tūrān to 1 arb, 21 lakhs and 75,000 khānī, that are now current." <sup>1</sup>

*Tūzūk*, Trans. I, 96; Text, 46, two lines from foot.

Jahāngīr gives the amount in dāms as "16 kror, 10 lakhs and something more," and adds that this is what he found "carved on a stone" on "each of the gates." "The following note which Dowson has appended to his abridged translation of the '*Tārīkh-i-Sher Shāhī*' is, therefore, perplexing and calculated to raise serious doubts about his accuracy. "The '*Tārīkh-i-Dāūdī*' (MS. p. 236) says 'New Rhotās' cost eight kror, five lacs, five thousand and two and a half dāms, which means Bahlolīs. All which is written over the gate of the fort." (Elliot and Dowson, IV, 419 note.) It will be seen that the sum is just half of that mentioned by the Emperor. The two statements are at first sight, absolutely discrepant. At the same time, the identification of the 'dām' with

visited this country in the reign of Akbar. He was a first cousin of Mirzā Ghiyās Beg, father of the Empress Nūr Jahān and had evidently good sources of information. The passage itself has been copied into his own work by the author of the *Maāgīru-l-umārā* and the equation is discussed in my article on the Murādī Tanka (*loc. cit.*, 91-2). The English traveller Herbert says the castle cost twenty-five laks of rupees, but the statement itself (which is cited below as a curiosity) is full of palpable errors.

"This done, Ecbar returns, crowned with victory, and as the product of peace, begins the Castle in Agra, \* \* Twelve years scarce finish it, though twelve hundred Labourers were at some time employed about it; there he expended fifty thousand crow of Tacks [Tankas]; a crow is a hundred leek, each leek a hundred thousand; thirty, sometime twenty Tack [Tanka] make one Roopee; a Roopee is two Shillings three pence, so that accounting but twenty Tack to a Roopee the total he disbursed amounts to two millions and five hundred thousand Roopees." (Travels, Ed. 1665, pp. 66-7.)

'Fifty thousand crow of Tacks' is an error or absurd exaggeration. Fifty crores of Tankas would at the rate of 20 Tankas to the rupee, be equivalent to twenty-five millions of rupees and not to two millions and five hundred thousand only.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Beveridge says in a Note that the "figures seem wrong" and that "the correct sum in rupees is 34 lakhs 25,000." This is due to a miscalculation on his own part. The correct amount in rupees is 40,25,000 as given by Jahāngīr. But the Emperor has confused arb with kror, in his summation of the Khānīs and is also wrong as to the number of the laks. The correct number of Khānīs is 1 kror, 20 laks, 75,000, at the rate of 3 khānīs to the Rupee.

the 'Bahloli' indicates that this may be due to some confusion. No copper coin of Bahlol Lodi with a weight corresponding to that of the *dām* is known. What the writer really meant or intended was the similar issue in mixed metal—the denomination which acquired in the reign of his son the specific name of 'Sikandari Tankā', and was equal to the twentieth part of the Akbari Rupee i.e., just two *dāms*. Eight krons, five laks, five thousand and two and a half *Sikandari tankas* would exactly equal the "16 krons, 10 lakhs of dams and more [کری]" given by the Emperor.

(iii) Jahāngīr says that on the first anniversary of Akbar's death, he gave away large sums and ordered them to be divided amongst the necessitous and the faqīrs. The total came to 1,00,000 rupees, equal to 300 'Irāq tūmāns, and 3,00,000 of the currency of the people of Māwarāun-nahr [i.e. Transoxiana or Tūrān. [II R.Y.]]<sup>1</sup>

*Tūzūk*, Trans. I, 128; Text, 61, l. 7.

(iv) "On the whole, they told me the cost of this lofty edifice [*scil.* Akbar's tomb at Sikandra] was 15,00,000 rupees, equivalent to 50,000 current tūmāns of Persia and 45,00,000 Khānīs, according to the currency of Tūrān."<sup>2</sup>

*Tūzūk*, Trans. I 152; Text, 73, l. 1.

(v) "I gave him [Yādgār 'Alī Sulṭān, ambassador of Shāh 'Abbās] a superb robe of honour and 30,000 rupees, which were equivalent 1,000 Persian tūmāns." [VI R.Y.]

*Tūzūk*, Trs. I, 193; Text, 93; three lines from foot.

(vi) "Nearly 3,00,000 rupees or 2,000 Persian Tūmāns were expended on this" [*scil.* repairs to the palaces of the Khiljī rulers of Mālwa in Mandū].<sup>3</sup> [XI R.Y.]

*Tūzūk*, Trans. I, 364; Text, 180, l. 2.

(vii) "Altogether my son's offerings [*scil.* Prince Khurram or Shāh Jahān's] came to 22,60,000 rupees or 75,000 tūmāns of the currency of Irān, or 67,80,000 current Tūrān khānīs." [XII R.Y.]

*Tūzūk*, Trs. I, 401; Text, 198, seventh line from foot.

(viii) "On Thursday the 7th [Dai, XII R.Y.], marching 6½ Koss [*scil.* from Naryād.], I halted in the parganah of Pitlād. In the country of Gujārāt there is no larger parganah than this; it has a revenue of 7,00,000 rupees, equal to 23,000 current tūmāns of Irāq."

<sup>1</sup> This is a misprint. It should be 3,000 'Irāq Tūmāns, and so it is in the original.

<sup>2</sup> Sir Thomas Herbert writes: "At Tzekander, or Secandra, \* \* \* is the Mausoleum or Burial-place of the great Moguls, the foundation of which was begun by Ecbat, the superstructure continued by Jangheer his Son, and is yet scarce finished, albeit they have already consumed 14 millions of Roopees in that Wonder of India." *Travels*, Ed. 1665, p. 67. The European traveller has almost decupled the real amount.

<sup>3</sup> *Sic* in the English translation, but the printed Persian text has not هزار دو but هزار و دو which is, without doubt, the correct reading.

*Tūzuk*, Trs. I, 415; Text, 205, six lines from foot.

(ix) "It [*scil.* the *kapūr talāo*, *i.e.* Camphor Tank] is a square of 36 yards [دع] by 36, with a depth of  $4\frac{1}{2}$  yards [دوع]. By the order of that revered one [*scil.* Akbar], the officials of the public treasury had filled it with *fulūs* (copper coins) and rupees. It came to 34 krors, and 48 lakhs, and 46,000 dāms, and 16,79,400 rupees or a total of 1,03,00,000 (one kror and three lakhs), according to the Hindustāni reckoning and 3,43,000 *tūmān* according to Persian. For a long time the thirsty-lipped ones of the desert of desire were satisfied from that fountain of benignity."<sup>1</sup> (*Tūzuk*, Trs. II, 68-9; Text, 260, l. 26.)

(x) "Altogether there had been expended on these buildings [*scil.* the palace at Lāhor] the sum of Rs. 7,00,000 or 23,000 current *tūmāns* of Persia." [XV.R.Y.]

*Tūzuk*, Trans. II, 183; Text, 318, l. 19.

(xi) During the famine of 1040 A.H. the Emperor [*scil.* Shāh Jahān] allowed remissions of land-revenue amounting to about [قريب] 70,00,000 rupees—equal to more than 2,30,000 *tūmāns* of 'Irāq and 2,80,00,000 *khānīs* of Mawarā-an-nahr—in the *khālṣa* *Mahāls* [*i.e.* Crown lands] of which the customary revenue was eighty krors of dāms or one-eleventh of the aggregate [land ?] revenue of the Empire.<sup>2</sup>

*Bādishāh-nāma*, Bibl. Ind. Text, I, i 364, l. 4.

(xii) Shawls were woven in the Imperial *kārkhānas* of Kashmīr and Lāhor which were so exceedingly fine that the cost per gaz was a hundred rupees or more than three *tūmāns* of 'Irāq.

*Bād. Nām.* Text, I, i. 448.

(xiii) The expenses incurred in connection with the *Jashn* or Feast on the occasion of Dārā Shikoh's marriage to Nādira Bānū—the daughter of Prince Parviz—were thirty-two laks of rupees which would be nearly [قريب] equivalent to one hundred thousand *tūmāns* of 'Irāq or one kror and thirty laks of the *khānīs* of Mawarā-an-nahr. [VI R.Y. 1042, A.H.].

*Bād. Nām.* Text, I, i. 460.

(xiv) The entire territory belonging to the *Nizāmu-l-mulk* [*i.e.* the kings or rulers of Aḥmadnagar] of which the Jama'a [land-revenue ?] amounted to two krors and twenty-five laks of rupees or six hundred and twenty-five thousand *tūmāns* of Irāq was annexed to the Imperial dominions [ممالك معروسة]<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> There is a small error here. The correct sum in Rupees is 1,03,00,500 rupees.

<sup>2</sup> Jahāngīr always reckons three *Khānīs* to the Rupee. This author assigns to it a lower value and makes it  $\frac{1}{3}$  of a Rupee.

<sup>3</sup> There must be some error in the calculation of the figures. The *Tūmān* could not have all of a sudden risen to 36 rupees. (2,25,00,000 + 6,25,000 = 36).

*Bād. Nām. ibid.*, I, i. 485, l. 4.

(xv) Qutbu-l-mulk the ruler of Gulkanda sent in token of allegiance a *peshkash* [tribute] of the value of fifty laks of rupees, which would be nearly [قريب] equivalent to one hundred and sixty thousand *tūmāns*. [VI R.Y.]

*Bād. Nām ibid.*, I, i. 485, l. 6.

(xvi) The aggregate amount of the *peshkash* [i.e. tribute] received from the rulers of the Dekkan, the chiefs of Gondwāna and the buried treasures of Jhajjār [Singh Bundela] during this year [IX R.Y. 1045-6 A.H.] was about [نزدیک] two krorrs of rupees which would be equivalent to about [قريب] six hundred and seventy thousand *tūmāns* of 'Irāq and eight krorr *khānis* of the currency of Māwarā-an-nahr.

*Bād. Nām ibid.*, I, ii. 181, l. 1.

(xvii) The aggregate value of the offerings presented by the Prince Shāh Jahān to the Emperor Jahāngīr after his first campaign in the Dekkan was 22,60,000 rupees equivalent to 75,000 *tūmāns* current in Irān [رایج ایران] and about [قريب] a hundred laks of the *khānis* current in Māwarā-an-nahr<sup>1</sup>

*Bād. Nām.* I, ii. 189, l. 4.

(xviii) The total Revenue [حاصل کل] of the kings of Persia is seven<sup>2</sup> laks of *tūmāns* which are equal to two krorrs and forty laks of rupees.

*Bād. Nām.* II, 63, l. 12.

(xix) The annual proceeds of the taxes on corn and other food-stuffs and drinks [باج غله و دیگر اجناس مأكوله و مشروبه] remitted by the Emperor [scil. Aurangzeb] in the *Khālṣa* *Maḥāls* alone had been 25,00,000 rupees or 75,000 *Tūmāns* current in Irān. [II, R.Y., 1070 A.H.]

*Ālamgīrnāma*, Bibl. Ind. Text, 438, l. 12.

(xx) The presents sent by Shāh Ḥusain Ṣafavī for the Emperor Farrukhsiyar in 1124 A.H. were more costly than those sent by any of his predecessors and the ambassador presented on his own account twelve or thirteen horses and other things

<sup>1</sup> This is copied from the *Tūzūk-i-Jahāngīrī*. Trs. I, 401. *Vide supra*, Extrat vii), but the figures for the *khānis* are deliberately altered. Jahāngīr has only 67,80,000 *Khānis*.

<sup>2</sup> This is a copyist's error. هفت and هشت are constantly confused in Persian writing: There can be little doubt that the true reading is هشت (eight). *Khāfi* *Khān* who has reproduced the figures has "eight laks and twelve thousand *Tūmāns* of Irāq or about two krorrs and fifty laks of rupees." (I, 403, l. 3.) As he expressly cites the *Bādishāhnāma* as his authority, we may be sure that his copy had هشت *Khāfi* *Khān* says that the income from the tithe on corn [عشور جنس غله] was 25 laks of rupees in the 2nd year of Aurangzeb's reign; but he does not give its equivalent in *Tūmāns*. (Text, II, 68, l. 11.)

of the value of five hundred tūmāns or twelve thousand rupees.

Khāfi Khān, *Muntakhabu-l-Lubāb*, Bib. Ind. Text, II, 737, l. 2.

It will be seen that ten out of the twenty passages cited are from the 'Memoirs' of Jahāngīr. In four of them (Nos. iii-vi), the Tūmān is reckoned as exactly equivalent to 30 rupees. In the other six, a somewhat higher multiple seems to have been adopted, but it is difficult to say whether this is due to errors in calculation, mistakes of transcription, the use of only round numbers or some temporary rise or fluctuation in the rupee-value of the Tūmān. The last seems to be the least probable. The Tūmān was a mere money of account, an imaginary denomination with a fixed theoretical value or book-rate, but no substantial or metallic basis, and there is nothing to show that it was subject to temporary variations according to the balance of trade or the supply and demand of the precious metals.

It becomes consequently necessary to fall back upon one or other of the three first explanations. In Ext. i, 1,15,000 Tūmāns are stated as equivalent to 35 laks of rupees, though the sum yielded by multiplying the number of Tūmāns by 30 is only 34 laks, 50 thousand. So in Ext. ix, the equivalent of 3,43,000 Tūmāns is said to be 10,30,000 Rs. The exact figure is 1,02,90,000 Rs. So in the seventh quotation, the correct sum in rupees should, at the former rate, be 22,50,000 and not 22,60,000, and in the eighth and tenth excerpts 6,90,000, instead of 70,00,000. All these are most probably accounted for by the author's indifference to mathematical exactitude, and his desire to be content with round numbers. But this excuse will scarcely serve in the case of our second citation, where 1,20,000 Tūmāns are said to be equivalent to 40,25,000 Rs. The discrepancy here is too glaring and is due either to a blunder in calculation or transcription, and we should suppose that the imperial author wrote or meant to write 1,30,000 Tūmāns.

Eight of the remaining excerpts are from the *Bādishāh-nāma*. Its author's valuation is also thirty rupees, but he deliberately and repeatedly allows it to be known that the figures he gives are only approximately correct. In one place (No. 14), he seems to reckon it at thirty-six rupees (6,25,000 Tūmāns  $\times 3 = 22,25,00,000$  Rs.), but this is probably due to an error in multiplication.

In the solitary reference to this denomination in the *Ālamgīrnāma*, the rate of conversion adopted seems to be 33½ Rupees to the Tūmān. The statement occurs in the chronicle of the year 1070 Hijri (1659-60 A.C.) and the work itself was completed in the 32nd year of Aurangzeb's reign (E.D. VII, 174). Then, we find Khāfi Khān recording the fact that some horses presented to Farrukhsiyar in 1124 A.H. were valued at

500 Tūmāns or 12,000 Rupees. This means that the Tūmān had, at some time during the intervening half century, fallen to 24 rupees.

## XVI. THE JULŪS YEARS OF SHĀH JAHĀN.

A Solar Era commencing from the Nauroz (day of the Sun's entrance into Aries) of the year of his accession (963 A.H.) was founded by Akbar in A.H. 992 (XXIX R.Y.). The new *Sana* or Epoch was called 'Ilāhī', and not Akbarī, from a desire to give credit to Allah for this as well as other reforms of the period, and to advance God's glory rather than his own.<sup>1</sup> The establishment of the new system of reckoning is proved by the fact that from the thirtieth year of his reign to its end in the fiftieth, the dates on the coins are expressed in solar years and months to the "almost total exclusion" of the lunar computation. The Hijri dates reappeared on the accession of Jahāngīr, but the rival method was not discarded. "Whilst reverting to the lunar reckoning for the \* \* \* ordinary date of his coins, he still employed," says Mr Lane Poole, "the solar year and Persian months in stating the year of his reign on the coinage, though without any pretence of establishing a new Epoch, but simply as our own Acts of Parliament are dated by the Queen's regnal years. \* \* \* Besides retaining Akbar's solar reckoning for regnal years, Jahāngīr preserved the special term Ilāhī in connexion with the regnal year, using it in the same manner as *julūs*,—a term which he also occasionally employed. Thus he inscribed his coins with *سنة ۶ جلوس*, and also with *ضرب اگرة ۶ سنة مهر الهی*. The custom of recording the *julūs* or regnal year was preserved by all succeeding Emperors and pretenders; but the solar years and Persian months were banished from the coinage and the

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<sup>1</sup> Several ancient as well as modern Eras were called by their founders after their own names; others are named after rulers whose accession or death they were intended to commemorate. In a disquisition on the subject in which Abūl Fazl has freely laid under contribution the *Aḥḥār-u-l-Bāqiya* ('Chronology of Ancient Nations') of the Arab polyhistor Alberūnī—the following instances are mentioned: the Era of Bukht Naṣr, (Nabonassar, i.e. Nebuchadnezzar), the Era of Philip, the Era of Augustus, the Era of Antoninus [Pius], the Era of Daklātīānūs (Diocletian), the Era of Yazdejard, and the Malikī Era, i.e. of Jalāl-u-d-dīn Malik Shāh Seljūqī. *Āin-i-Akbarī*, Text, I., 274-7; Jarrett II., 22-29. See also Sachau's Translation of the *Aḥḥār*.

Akbar from a feeling of humility, real or professed or perhaps from a mere desire to do something new, would not allow the Era established by himself to be called after his own name. He would have it called Ilāhī. The new *Gaz* or Yard measure introduced by Sikandar Lodī had been called *Sikandarī* (*Āin*, Tr. II., 61). Akbar devised another and promulgated a decree for its universal use, but its official designation was Ilāhī, not Akbarī.



exchequer by Aurangzeb. \* \* It should be observed that discrepancies between the Hijrah year and the regnal year are not infrequent. Sometimes this is due to the employment of an old die; sometimes it is caused by the carelessness of the mint-masters. The use of the solar reckoning for the regnal years and the lunar for the Hijrah date during Jahāngīr's and Shāh Jahān's reigns, when the two were constantly shifting their relative positions, may reasonably have caused some confusion." (B.M.C. Introd lxiii-iv).<sup>1</sup>

It will be noticed that Mr. Lane Poole speaks of the 'use of the solar reckoning for the regnal years' not only of Jahāngīr but also of Shāh Jahān, and similar pronouncements have been made with equal confidence by other Numismatists of repute. So far as Jahāngīr is concerned, the explicit statements on the subject in his own '*Tūzūk*' and the '*Iqbāl-nāma*' of his secretary, Mu'atamad Khān, leave no room for doubt that the regnal dates on his coins are calculated on a solar basis. But the matter stands on an altogether different footing with respect to Shāh Jahān. A superficial examination of the monetary issues of that Emperor is sufficient to show that the "discrepancies between the regnal years and Hijrah dates" to which allusion is made by Mr. Lane Poole, are not only too numerous but too *systematic* or *methodical* to be ascribed to the "carelessness of mint-masters" or the occasional "employment of an old die."

I have had, in the course of these studies, occasion to investigate the subject in the light of certain statements occurring in the Mughal chronicles. Some of these statements are lengthy, and the demonstration of their correctness will involve some labour and tedious calculations, but the full presentation of the evidence—historical and numismatic—is indispensable for an adequate discussion of the question, the accepted views

<sup>1</sup> I have cited the passage from Mr. Stanley Lane Poole's Introduction as it is the fullest, clearest and most authoritative exposition known to me of the accepted views on this subject. As this paper is written for the purpose of demonstrating that that view is radically erroneous, I may be permitted for clearness to state categorically in juxtaposition with it, the points in which I differ from him.

In the first place, then, I deny that Jahāngīr "*preserved* the special term *Ilāhī* in connexion with the regnal year." I submit that it was used by him only "in connexion with" the names of the months and that the qualifying epithet which Jahāngīr used for the *Ilāhī* or year was not *Ilāhī* but *Julūs*. At the same time, I admit that Jahāngīr's *Julūs* (not *Ilāhī*) years were reckoned on a solar basis.

I deny that the solar reckoning of the *Julūs* years was first abolished by Aurangzeb. My submission is that the *Julūs* years on the coins of Shāh Jahān are not in terms of Solar Years but Lunar and that the word '*Ilāhī*' which figures on the so-called *Kalima-Ilāhī* coins qualifies only the name of the month, and not the word *Ilāhī*, with which it has nothing whatever to do.

in regard to which appear to be founded on a hasty assumption.

I will first call into the witness-box the court-chronicler 'Abdul Hamid Lāhori whose '*Bādishāhnāma*' is the most detailed and authoritative account of the first twenty years of Shāh Jahān's reign. In his account of the commands issued by the Emperor immediately after his accession we read :—

از آنجا که همگی امت پادشاهانه و عزیمت ملکانه خدیو وقت کشور  
خداوند بحر و بر معروف رواج دین حق آئین محمدی و رونق طریقه ائمه  
احمدی است \*\*\* و با علو منزلت و جاه و فزونی مکتب و دستگاه از خزاین  
بی پایان و عساکر بهکبران و کثرت اسباب تنعم و تن اسانی و فوط مواد مسکنات  
جسمانی . لحظه از رعایت اوامر و نواهی ملت غراء مصطفوی بغفلت نگرایند .  
و لحظه از حمایت احکام شریعت بیضای نبوی فراموشی نگزینند بر خاطر صواب  
ناظر پرتو افکند که سی و دو سال شمسی و شش روز و هشت ساعت نجومی  
و نذی سی و سه سال هلالی است و پیداست که مدت ترویج سی و سه سال  
دین مبین را سی و دو سال نگاشتن خردمند سعادت ور دین پژوه نیز برد بنا  
بران مفتوح سوانح و مبداء وقایع جلوس مقدس قرار داده مدار حفظ اوقات  
احکام و ضبط حوادث ایام بر سزین و شهر قمری که مبنی تاریخ هجری است  
نهادند \*\*\* و اگر چه اورنگ جهانسزائی هشتم ماه جمادی الثانیه بجلوس والا  
بلند پایگی یانده بود اما چون ابتداء سال از سر آغاز ماه اولی از پیشگاه  
دالش فرمان شد که مبداء سال فرخنده جلوس غرة جمادی الثانیه اعتبار گذد  
و بدین مضمون مذاشیر قضا ناثیر بصوبجات ممالک محروسه صادر شد \*

*Bādishāhnāmā*, Bibl. Ind. Text, I, i. 128, l. 3.

"As the Imperial energies and the princely labours of this Lord of Seven Climes, the Ruler of Land and Sea [*scil* Shāh Jahān] are directed towards (*lit.* spent) giving currency to the Righteous Faith of Muḥammad and imparting lustre to the Pure Creed of Aḥmad \* \* \* and as, notwithstanding, the eminence of his rank and dignity, the profusion of wealth and grandeur resulting from inexhaustible treasures and innumerable troops, the plentifulness of the means of luxury and indulgence, and the abundance of the resources of corporeal pleasures, His Majesty does not, for a moment neglect the execution of the injunctions and prohibitions of the Glorious Religion of Muḥammad the Muṣṭafa, it flashed upon the right thinking mind [of the Emperor], that thirty-two solar years, six days and eight and one-third astronomical hours are equivalent to thirty-three lunar years. It is evident, then, that no wise and

religious individual would willingly record that the True Faith [*scil.* Islām] had existed (*lit.* been current) for 32 years only when it had in reality subsisted for 33. Consequently the August Accession [*Julūs-i-muqaddas*] was ordered to be established as the starting-point (*lit.* opener, key) of events and the initial date (*lit.* point of commencement) of the occurrences [of the reign], and the registration of imperial regulations in the order of time and the record of the incidents of the period *was directed to be based on the lunar years and months on which the Era of the Hijra is founded.* \* \* \* \* \* And although the throne of world-conquest had the honour of being mounted [in reality] on the 8th of Jumādā the Second, yet, as it is preferable to commence a year from the very beginning of a month, instructions were issued from the Court of wisdom for making the auspicious year of the Accession begin from the 1st of Jumādā the Second. And unalterable (irresistible or inexorable) commands to that effect were issued to the *Ṣūbas* of the Guarded Empire."

The author of the '*Ālamgīrnāma* also, after describing the *Tārīkh-Ilāhī* established by Akbar, and saying that Jahāngīr continued to reckon in *Solar* [*Shamsī*] years (not *Ilāhī* years) and months, but made a fresh beginning from his own accession (*Julūs-i-Jahāngīrī*) declares that Shāh Jahān did away with the system of reckoning the years of the *julūs* by *Solar* years.

و در نوبت سریر آرائی حضرت جنت مکانی نورالدین محمد جهانگیر بادشاه طاب مثواله جلوس جهانگیری مبنای تاریخ گشته بر همان نهج آغاز سنین از فروردین نشاء ائین رتبت اعتبار یافت و بهمان دستور ضبط وقائع برسنین و شهور شمسى قرار گرفت و بعد از آنکه سریر خلافت بجلوس اشرف اعلی حضرت صاحب قران ثانى ولا پایه گردید آن حضرت تاریخ الهی و جهانگیری را که مبنای بر سال و عاا شمسی بود اعتبار نکرده بقی ضبط حوادث و مدار حفظ اوقات بروفق معمول اهل اسلام بر سنین و شهور قمری که مبنای تاریخ هجرى است نهادند و فرغ جمادى الاخره که در هشتم آن بر سربر سلطنت جلوس فرموده بودند مبدای تاریخ قرار دادند \*

' *Ālamgīrnāma*, Bibl. Ind. Text, 387, seven lines from foot.

"And when it fell to the lot (*lit.* was the turn) of *Ḥazrat Jinnatmakānī* (*i.e.* he whose residence is in Paradise) *Nūru-d-dīn Muhammad Jahāngīr Bādishāh*—may his resting-place be sweet—to adorn the throne, the *Julūs-i-Jahāngīrī* (*i.e.* the year of Jahāngīr's accession) became the foundation (*i.e.* the initial date) of the *Tārīkh* (*i.e.* the chronological system), and it was the practice to commence the year in the same way [as in the reign of Akbar] from the delightful [month of] Farwardīn and

to record events as before (*lit.* in the same manner) in *solar* years and months." [ سڌين و شهر شمسي ]

"After the throne of the Khilāfat was exalted by the glorious accession,<sup>1</sup> of the A'la Hazrat, the second Shāh Qirān, His Majesty [*scil.* Shāh Jahān] discarded the *Ilāhi* and *Jahāngīrī* Eras or Epochs [ تاريخ الهی و جهانگیری ] which were based on Solar years and months, and laid the foundation of the registration of events and the recording of occurrences in conformity with the practice of the people of Islām on lunar years and months. The 1st day of the second Jumādā, on the 8th of which he [*scil.* Shāh Jahān] had actually ascended the throne of the Sultanate, was fixed as the initial date of the Reign."

And Khāfi Khān puts the matter thus:—

و اول ديوان بعضى بدعتهاي نا مشروع مثل سجود نمودن در مقابل عنايات و در وقت آب نوش جان فرمودن و بجاي تاريخ ماه عربى و سال هجرى ماه و سال شمسى الهى بقيد سده جلوس اكبرى نوشتن منوع نموده عوض سجده زمين بوس چهار تسليم مقرر فرمودند و تاريخ ماه عربى و سال هجرى را از سال و ماه جلوس مقدم داشته ماه الهى را با سال مطابق آن قرار دادند \*

*Muntakhahu-l-Lubāb*, Bibl. Ind. Text, I, 397, ll. 3-9.

"On the very first day of holding Court, he [*scil.* Shāh Jahān] abolished various innovations which were contrary to the Religious Law [ شرع ], as for example, the performance of the *Sijda* as an acknowledgment of favours received [from the Emperor], or when water was drunk by him.<sup>2</sup> The recording (*lit.* writing) of the Solar—*Ilāhi* month and year in conformity with the Epoch ( سده ) of Akbar's accession [ جلوس اكبرى ] instead of the Arabian month and Hijrī year was also forbidden

<sup>1</sup> The phrase used in the original is جلوس اشرف which is a characteristic feature of the coins of A'gam Shāh. All the other synonymous expressions appearing on the coins - جلوس ميمنت مانوس - جلوس مقدس - جلوس مبارک (P.M.C. Introd. xxxii) occur frequently in all the historians of the period. I have also noticed جلوس اقدس - جلوس همايون - جلوس سعادت مانوس - جلوس خجستگی مانوس and جلوس معلى

<sup>2</sup> This was an ancient Persian custom and in vogue under the Achæmenid dynasty. The quarrel between Alexander the Great and Callisthenes which ultimately led to the latter's being rightly or wrongly accused and hanged for conspiracy originated in the latter's 'churlish' refusal to prostrate himself at a drinking-party. Arrian, *Anabasis*, Tr Chinnock, Bk. IV, Ch. XII, (Bohn), pp. 209-210.

[منوع]. Four bows [چهار تسلیم]<sup>1</sup> were substituted for the *Sijda* or *Zamīnbos* and the date [تاریخ] according to the Arabian month and Hijri year was directed to be [قرار دادند] put in front of [مقدم داشه], written before, or given precedence to ?] the year and month of the *Julūs*, the *Ilāhi* month being entered along with the year corresponding [مطابق] to it."

It is not always easy to unravel the meaning of such ornate writers as the authors of the *Bādīshāhnāma* and the *‘Ālamgīrnāma*, but it stands out clearly even from the inflated periods of ‘Abdul Hamīd and his imitator, that Shāh Jahān abolished immediately after his enthronement, the practice of counting the regnal or *Julūs* years in terms of the solar year, and issued orders for the restoration of the lunar reckoning which was inseparably associated with the rites and practice of Islām. The solar computation was, in the opinion of the orthodox Emperor, a بدعت or unauthorized and pernicious innovation, a defiance not only of the Law of the Prophet, but a sin against God.<sup>2</sup> It amounted to this that a Musalmān Sovereign who had, by Divine Grace, been permitted to rule for thirty-three years represented himself in his public Acts and Records as having reigned for only thirty-two. It was, to all intents and purposes, an attempt artificially and unlawfully to disparage the bounties of Providence and, as such, a clear and damning proof of ingratitude. One of his earliest regulations, consequently, enjoined the instant purgation of this error and directed that the length of his own reign should be measured by lunar or Arabian years and months, so as to render unto

<sup>1</sup> The author of the *Qānoon-e-Islām* defines "*Taslim* as touching the ground with the fingers and then making *salam*, sometimes repeated thrice. \* \* \* *Qudum bosee* قدم بوسی or *Zumeen bosee* زمین بوسی which consists in kissing the foot or touching it with the hand, or touching the edge of the carpet on which the person sits, and either kissing the latter or making a *salam*. Done only to parents and great people. \* \* \* *Sijdah* سجده or Prostration. A position in prayer consisting in stooping forwards while in the sitting (the Mohammedan kneeling) posture, and touching the ground with the forehead; the eyes at the same time directed to the tip of the nose". Herklots, *op. cit.*, pp. cv. and ci.

<sup>2</sup> Shāh Jahān's orthodoxy is the constant theme of the praise of ‘Abdul Hamīd. Elsewhere, he informs us that "as soon as his Majesty, ascended the throne, he directed his imperial energies to the renovation of the institutions of the religion of the Mustafa [Muḥammad] which had gone to ruin and directed his royal zeal to the strengthening of the foundations of the Law of the Prophet which had begun to decay." (*Bādīshāhnāma*, Text, I, 110, l. 16). Other writers, do the same. "Historians," writes Blochmann, "make much of the time of his birth (end of the Millennium), and his first acts on his accession justified people to look upon him as the *Mujaddid-i-dīn-i-mubīn*, the Restorer of Islam." (Proc. A.S.B., 1869, p. 219.)

Allah undiminished meed of praise for His Mercies and to avoid ungratefully detracting anything from them.

The historian Khāfi Khān whose account of the first ten years of the reign is professedly derived, not so much from the *Bādishāhnāma* of 'Abdul Hamīd as from the contemporary '*Shāh Jahānnāma*' of Amīnāi Munshi (see *Muntakhabu-l-Lubāb*, Text, I. 248, 165, 346), makes an identical statement in simpler language. At the same time, he adds a detail of no small interest in regard to the rule or formula officially prescribed for registering the date. He not only says that the reckoning in solar years was prohibited and the Julūs years directed to be calculated in terms of the lunar year, but that the Hijri *tarīkh* was ordered to be written before the year of the Julūs and the Ilāhi *month* to be entered along with the year corresponding to it only at the end.

Briefly, the historical evidence amounts to this that Shāh Jahān ordered the official record of events and the years of his own reign to be kept in Lunar years, that he prohibited the registration of, as well as the reckoning by, Solar years and that he insisted on the Ilāhi month being entered, in those cases in which it was necessary or permissible to do so, *at the very end*, the place of honour being given to the Hijri *tarīkh*. If these statements are correct, it follows, as a matter of course, that the *Julūs* dates on *all* the monetary issues of the Emperor are expressed in terms of lunar and not solar years.

So far as these three authors are concerned, there is an absolute consensus. But chroniclers and annalists are not infallible and it is possible that they may be in error, or have misconstrued and imperfectly reported the purport of the Imperial *Farmān*.

It becomes necessary, therefore, to test their statements by the coins—and to ascertain, from those veracious records whether the regnal dates inscribed upon them are Solar, as present day numismatists think, or Lunar, as the contemporary historians unanimously declare.

For the purposes of this inquiry, the extant mintages of Shāh Jahān may be divided into six classes:—

- (i) Those on which no dates were originally inscribed or are now decipherable;
- (ii) Those which show only the Hijri date;
- (iii) Those which display the Regnal or Julūs year only;
- (iv) Those exhibiting the Hijri year and Ilāhi month;
- (v) Those on which the Hijri and the Regnal or Julūs years are both stated;
- (vi) Those on which the Hijri year, the Julūs date and the Ilāhi month are all recorded.

It is evident that the first four of these classes are incapable of shedding any light on the matter at issue. It is the coins

of the fifth and sixth groups only which furnish us with the data necessary for answering the question, 'Are the Regnal years to be understood as Solar or Lunar' ?

To make it easy for every one to follow the discussion, and form his own opinion on a somewhat abstruse point of comparative chronology, I have prepared two Tables of Synchronisms. In the first, the Hijrī days and months corresponding to the Nauroz (New Year's Days) of thirty-two Solar years of Shāh Jahān's reign will be found. In the second, the Solar days and months equivalent to the thirty-two Lunar anniversaries of Shāh Jahān's Accession are shown.

Let me explain the use of the First Table. Opening at random the British Museum Catalogue, we find that No. 560 has the dates 1057-21. Now, the Table shows that the نوروز or New Year's day of the 21st Solar year of Shāh Jahān's reign corresponded to 25 Šafar 1058 A.H. (20th March, 1648). But if the 21st Solar year commenced more than fifty days *after* the expiry of the 1057th year of the Hijra, it is clear that the two dates are discrepant. On the same page No. 563 shows the figures 1061-25, but according to the Table, the 25th Nauroz really coincided with 9 Rab'ī II of the *following* year, 1062 A.H. (20th March, 1652 A.C.):

No. 565 exhibits the conjoint date 1062-26 though it is apparent from the Table that the 26th year by the solar reckoning began only on 20 Rab'ī II, 1063 A.H. (20-3-1653 A.C.) The parallel dates on Nos. 566 and 567 are, for similar reasons; irreconcilable, if the Julūs years are supposed to be Solar.

Let us now take some instances from Mr. H. Nelson Wright's Indian Museum Catalogue. No. 884 exhibits the double date 1055-19, though the contemporary author of the *Bādishāhnāma* has left it on record that the Nauroz of the 19th year was celebrated only on 3rd Šafar 1056 A.H. (20 March, 1646 A.C.). No. 1095 is of 1056-20, though we have, in the same work, authority for the equation, Nauroz of 20th year = 14 Šafar 1057 A.H. (21 March, 1647 A.C.). On No. 1097 we read 1058-22, though the contemporary historian Muḥammad Wāriṣ explicitly states that the 22nd Solar year of Shāh Jahān's reign did not begin before 6 Rab'ī I, 1059 A.H. (20 March, 1649 A.C.) and did not end before 16 Rab'ī I, 1060 A.H. (19 March, 1650 A.C.).

If we turn to the Catalogue of the Panjāb Museum, there is no lack of discrepancies there also. No. 1221 is said to have been struck in the 17th year of the *Julūs*, and the Hijrī year is given as 1053, though the 17th Solar year really began only on 10 Muharram, 1054 A.H. (19 March, 1644 A.C.)—ten days after the 1053rd year of the Flight had come to an end. The Hijrī year 1054 is inscribed on No. 1436, and the Regnal year is stated to have been the 18th, though it is certain that the 18th Solar year had not commenced when 1054 Hijrī came

to an end, and the Nauroz of the 18th year was synchronous only with 21 Muḥarram 1055 A.H. (19 March, 1645 A.C.). The contemporary chronicler distinctly says so, and it is easy for any one to verify the statement by independent calculation.<sup>1</sup> The same observations apply to No. 1351 on which the Regnal year is 31, but the Hijri date is 1067, though the 31st solar year began only on 14 Jumādā II, 1068 A.H. (19 March, 1658 A.C.). It will be seen that in none of these cases do the figures for the Regnal or *Julūs* year work out correctly with the parallel Hijri dates if the former are *assumed* to be Solar. But they will be found to tally perfectly, one with the other, if the *Julūs* years are reckoned as lunar. Thus to go back to the first of the instances mentioned, the 21st Lunar year of Shāh Jahān's reign began (according to the *official* calculation) on 1st Jumādā II, 1057 A.H., and ended on 30th Jumādā I, 1058 A.H. The figures appearing on the coin (1057-21) are, therefore, *both* correct (*vide* Table II). Similarly the 25th Lunar year lasted from 1 Jumādā II, 1061 up to 30 Jumādā I, 1062 A.H. (Table II). The dates on the coin 1061-25 are therefore perfectly regular. The same observations apply to all the other cases.

It will be noticed that all these discrepancies occur only in reference to the mintages of the 17th or some subsequent year of the Emperor's reign, and that not a single instance of an earlier date is included in this lengthy catalogue of (supposed) errors. This is easily intelligible, and just what we should expect. The explanation is that the Lunar years being shorter than the Solar, progress more quickly. On account of the constant acceleration of about eleven days *per annum*, the lunar reckoning must, inevitably catch up, and ultimately even outrun the Solar computation. It is clear from Table I, that the latter event occurred in the 17th year. The 16th Solar anniversary of the Reign had coincided with 30 Zi-l-ḥajja, 1053 A.H. (9 March, 1644 A.C.), but the 17th Nauroz corresponded to 10 Muḥarram, 1054 A.H. (19 March, 1644 A.C.). This is why no 'discrepancies' arrest attention on any of the issues of the first 16 years. The trouble or divergence starts in the 17th *Julūs*, the Solar reckoning then *markedly* drops behind, and continues to be in arrears up to the end. The result is that the Hijri and Regnal dates on several dozens of

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<sup>1</sup> An intelligent use of the parallel Hijri-Christian dates extracted by Mr. Lane Poole from Wüstenfeld's Tables will enable any one to do so. The Nauroz always answers to the 18th, 19th or 20th March of the Julian Calendar. The first Nauroz of Shāh Jahān's reign, i.e. 1 Farwardīn Solar year I corresponded to 12 Rajab 1037 A.H. (Bādishāhnāma, I, i. 186, last line) or 18th March, 1628 A.C. (New style). The Hijri dates of the 2nd, 3rd and subsequent Naurozes can be easily found by looking in Wüstenfeld's Tables for the Musalmān equivalent of March 18th or 19th or 20th in the Hijri year 1038, 1039 and so on.



coins of the 17th and subsequent years do not 'fit in' at all, unless we accept the explicit statements of the contemporaneous annalists as to the *Julūs* reckoning having been re-established by Shāh Jahān on the *Lunar* basis.

We have next to consider the sixth class of coins on which the Hijri date, the Regnal year and the Persian month are all mentioned. On this type, the word 'Ilāhī' occurs as part of the 'date-formula,' and it has been, not unnaturally, supposed that it qualifies the word *time* as well as the name of the month.

The issue of this class of coins would seem to have been countermanded or discontinued everywhere, except at Tatta, towards the end of the seventh year. On the muhrs and rupees of Tatta, however, the Regnal year and the Ilāhī month continue to be displayed on the obverse, and the Hijri date on the reverse, up to the very end of the reign.

It is scarcely necessary to recall the fact that the great majority of these coins are, by reason of their dates being confined to the first seven years of the reign, precluded from being of any use or having a voice in the matter. They are, so to say, absolutely neutral for the purposes of the inquiry. The solar years had not yet lagged *distinctly* behind, and there is, therefore, no marked discord between the two elements. In other words they will be found to work out correctly on *either* supposition, i.e. whether the solar reckoning is adopted for the Regnal years or the Lunar. It is different with the issues of the Tatta mint, and they furnish several crucial instances which are fatal to the solar hypothesis.

For instances, we find that the 'date-expression' on B.M.C. 663 is '1058-22- Shahrivar Ilāhī.' A glance at Table I must suffice to show that the year could not possibly be the 22nd Solar year which began, according to the contemporary chronicler Wāriq, on 6 Rab'ī, 1059 A.H. (20 March, 1649 A.C.), and ended on 16 Rab'ī I, 1060 A.H. (19 March, 1650 A.C.). But the 22nd *Lunar* year lasted from 1 Jumādā II (= 3 Tīr), 1058 up to 30 Jumādā I (= 22 Khurdād), 1059 A.H. (23 June, 1648 to 11 June, 1649 A.C.). It follows that this Rupee must have been struck in the 22nd *Lunar* year at some time in Sha'bān-Ramzān 1058 A.H.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> It might be perhaps as well to state clearly once for all that the Hijri dates and regnal years on all the coins mentioned below do not tally if the latter are supposed to have been solar:—

B.M.C. Nos. 559, 560, 563, 565-8, 572-4, 663, 669, 671, 673, 676-681, 683-4.

I.M.C. Nos. 843, 845-7, 850-1, 854-5, 863, 867, 884, 926, 942, 981-3, 1010-11, 1038, 1057-8, 1060-1, 1065, 1069, 1077, 1079, 1083, 1095, 1097, 1099.

P.M.C. Nos. 1221, 1237, 1249, 1251-2, 1340, 1344, 1351, 1353, 1367-8, 1401-2, 1406-7, 1409, 1413, 1436, 1438, 1441, 1451, 1456.

<sup>2</sup> 1st Shahrivar would be the 167th day of the Ilāhī year, 30th Shahrivar the 187th. As the Ilāhī year began on 6th Rab'ī I, i.e. the 65th

Again, P.M.C. 1311 is said to have been issued in Amardād Ilāhī of the 29th year of the reign and the 1065th of the Hijra. Now the 29th Solar year began really on or about 23 Jumādā I, 1066—the year following. The two figures cannot therefore be made to tally on the Solar theory. But they will be found to be in perfect accord on the adverse supposition. The 29th Lunar year commenced on 1 Jumādā II (= 22 Farwardīn), 1065 and terminated on 30 Jumādā I (= 10 Farwardīn), 1066 A.H. (*vide* Table II). It is easy to see that the coin was issued in the 29th Lunar year, during Ramzān-Shawwāl 1065 A.H.

The same remarks apply to P.M.C. 1312 which can be similarly proved to have been minted during Šafar-Rab'ī I, 1068 A.H.—the 31st Lunar year, (1067–68 A.H.). Lastly, the only way of making all the three items on No. 863 I.M.C. viz. '1066–30—Khūrdād Ilāhī' harmonize with one another is to suppose that the muhr was stamped at some time in Rajab-Sha'bān 1066, the 30th lunar year of Shāh Jahān having begun on 1 Jumādā II (= Farwardīn), 1066 A.H.

But is it not possible to contend that the Regnal dates on the 'Kalima Ilāhī' coins of the first seven years may be solar, even if those on the subsequent or later mintages are adjudged to be lunar? A little reflection will show that this loop-hole, however promising at first sight, will hardly fulfil expectations. In the first place, we have the Tatta coins of the same type and we have seen that the Julūs years on these issues in which the *serial dating* is carried on without interruption up to the very end of the reign are demonstrably lunar. It goes without saying that all these Tatta coins are connected together and bound up with one another, and it would be scarcely reasonable to interpret the date-formula on the first seven years' coins in one way, and assign to the similar expressions on subsequent issues of the same type, a meaning not merely different, but altogether adverse and flatly contradictory.

There is another consideration also which should not be lost sight of. When a ruler is said to have deliberately adopted a certain method of dating, it is to be supposed in the absence of evidence to the contrary, that it was adhered to. throughout the entire course of his reign, in all matters and all departments, in the Mint, the Record Office and the Exchequer. If his coins are dated, we expect that the dating will be serially consistent, methodically continuous or regularly consecutive. In other words, it is postulated that the isolated dates on *all* his monetary issues will be bound together by the cement of one and the same chronological theory. Each coin

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day of the Hijrī year, we must add 64 to the number of Ilāhī days.  $160 + 64 = 220$ ;  $186 + 64 = 250$ ; 24th Sha'bān is the 230th and 15th Ramzān the 250th day of the Hijrī calendar.

is a member of an articulate whole and has its appointed place in the series which cannot be disturbed without breaking up the entire concatenation. In this view, the *Kalima-Ilāhī* issues, from the Akbarābād piece of the 1st year to the Tatta rupee of the 32nd, constitute an integral group of the Shāh Jahānī species, and the Tatta forms are not abnormal or monstrous outgrowths, but perfectly regular 'marginal types,' or 'survivals under a favourable environment' It follows that the dating of this particular group—from the earliest coin to the latest—must be in complete accord with that of all the other coin-types of the same Emperor. The only chronological theory which can bind all these types into an intelligible and harmonious whole, the only one which can give unity and coherence to the apparently unconnected and widely-scattered statements as to the time of issue is this lunar hypothesis. In it is to be found the only method of interpreting consistently all the chronological elements figuring on the coins—the Regnal year, the Hījri date and the Ilāhī month. All other suppositions bristle with insuperable difficulties or gratuitously postulate in the mintmasters ignorance and carelessness so gross as to be almost inconceivable.

But if the Regnal year or سنہ جاوس is not Solar, why is the word *Ilāhī* so often found on the Coins of this type? The question is perfectly legitimate, and a few remarks, therefore, in reference to the correct interpretation of the words and figures constituting their 'date-formula' will not be out of place. The words and figures are often arranged, on the coins, without regard to sense, grammar or idiom, as the whim or fancy of the engraver dictated or in consonance with his notions of calligraphic elegance. The word الہی is often put above or before the word ماہ, but sometimes comes after it. In some cases, it follows the word سنہ, but in others, precedes it. In several instances, it is altogether dropped and the number of the سنہ or year only is mentioned. In others, there is no sign of the word سنہ at all (I.M.C. 886). Usually the name of the month only is recorded without the preposition ہ, but we have sometimes in the same line the anomalous collocation قورودین بہاء (P.M.C. 1230, 1269) and تیر بہاء (*ibid.* 1238), instead of بہاء تیر or بہاء قورودین.

In these circumstances, it is futile to expect from the coins themselves, any real light as to the natural order of the words or their meaning. We have necessarily to bring to bear upon the solution of the problem such external evidence as is available. In the light of this evidence, it would appear that the words of the formula on the obverse, when given in its entirety, should be arranged in some such form as the following:—

فرب [place] سنة [number] بما or ما [Name] الهی and the adjective الهی should be understood to qualify the word ما or the name of the month *only*, and not the word سنة.

This naturally leads to another question, and that is, what is the real object of affixing the termination الهی to the name of the month, and what is its exact significance. It is common knowledge that the epithet occupies a prominent place in the 'date-formula' of the mintages of Akbar and Jahāngir. This knowledge connected with the fact that the Solar Era founded by Akbar was called *Tārīkh-i-Ilāhī* has, not unnaturally, induced the hasty assumption that the adjective applies to the whole collocation—to the word سنة as well as to the word ما wherever it occurs, and that its occurrence signifies that the years are solar years of the type introduced by Akbar. The assumption would seem to be founded on a misconception, and the suffix appear to have nothing to do with the *year*. This matter, like some others connected with Akbar's New Era, has been hitherto imperfectly understood, and here, as elsewhere, we are indebted for the correct explanation to a meticulous perusal of the pages of Abūl Fazl. In his account of the new system of reckoning, which, with all its shortcomings, is the most luminous and informative we possess, he writes:—

و اسماع ماہی این تاریخ را همان اسمی شهر مشهور فارسی معتبر  
داشتند و بلب الهی مزین گردانیدند چون نور دین ماہ الهی و اردی بهشت  
ماہ الهی \*

*Akbarnāma*, Bibl. Ind. Text, II, 9, l. 22.

This is rendered thus by Mr. Beveridge:—

"The names of the months of the Era were made identical with the famous names of the Persian months, but were adorned in addition by the title [لقب] *Ilāhī* (Divine), e.g., 'Farwardin, Divine Month,' 'Ardibihisht, Divine month.'"

(*Op. cit.*, Trans. II, 15-16.)

One of Abūl Fazl's defects as a writer is that he is often unduly concise just where he should be full. He is one of those 'allusive' authors who take it for granted that their readers are much more intelligent and well-informed than they can possibly be. A passage like this is, therefore, liable to be passed over and its real significance missed even by the careful reader.<sup>1</sup> That significance is brought home to him only when

<sup>1</sup> Mr. W. H. Moreland who has recently devoted considerable time and attention to a study of the *Āin* writes: "The '*Āin-i-Akbarī*' has a complex structure and requires to be read as a whole. It gives a vast quantity of information, but its point of view is different from ours, and is not always grasped at first sight. 'Abul Fazl usually indicates his

he turns to the chapter on the same subject in the *Āin-i-Akbarī*, in the latter part of which the "names of the months of the different eras are tabulated for facility of reference." Here, we find the series of names beginning with Farwardīn and ending with Isfandārmaz entered in three separate columns, and under no less than three different Eras,— the Yazdajardī, the Malikī (or Jalālī) and the Ilāhī. In the column assigned to the Era of Yazdajard, the name of each month has the epithet 'Old style' [قدم in the original] appended to it. In that set apart for the Malikī, the appellative 'Jalālī' is affixed. In the last column devoted to the Ilāhī, we read 'Farwardīn *Māh-i-Ilāhī*.' and are directed to substitute the last epithet for the 'Jalālī' and 'Qadīmī' of the two foregoing columns.<sup>1</sup>

The sum and substance of this is that the names Farwardīn, Ardibihisht, etc., were common to no less than three different Eras, each of them having an initial date of its own and based on principles or elements peculiar to itself.<sup>2</sup> The existence of a dozen months having the same names in three conflicting and irreconcilable systems of chronology was certain to create puzzlement and confusion unless care was taken to indicate explicitly the particular system to which the month under reference belonged. Briefly, a clear distinction between

*meaning, but the indications have to be sought for laboriously \* \* \* \* \** Students of the work will probably agree that dictionaries are nearly useless for determining the precise shades of meaning of the words used in it. We have to gather them from a study of the passages in which the words occur, and the *Āin* will not be completely mastered until some one compiles a concordance to its language." (The Italics are mine.) *Wages and Prices under Akbar*, J.R.A.S. 1917, pp. 815-7.

<sup>1</sup> This will be clearly seen from the following account of the *Tārīkh-i-Jalālī* which is given by Mahmūd Shāh Khuljī in his commentary on the *Zīj-i-Ilkhānī* of Naṣīr-u-d-dīn Ṭūsī and cited by Hyde (*Veterum Persarum Religio*, p. 209):—

"The philosophers in the time of Sultān Jalāl-ud-Dīn Malikshah \* \* \* determined the era called after Sultān Jalāl-ud-Dīn, wherein the names of the months corresponded with the names of the Persian months; but they described the latter as 'Old Style' and named the new months 'Jalālīan.' And they reckoned the beginning of the year of this era, namely the first of the Jalālīan month Farwardīn, to be the day on the forenoon of which the sun reached the point of the Vernal equinox.

\* \* This was Friday, corresponding with 9th Ramazan, 471 A.H., and with 15th March of the Alexandrian year 1390, and with 19th Farwardīn (Old Style) of the year 448 of the era of Yazdajird." Quoted by Whinfield, *Quatrains of Omar Khayyām*, 348-9. (The Italics are mine.) See also Cowasji Patell's *Chronology*.

<sup>2</sup> The Yazdajardī year was of 365 days. The months were of 30 days each and five days were intercalated at the end of Isfandārmaz.

The Malikī or Jalālī year was of 365 days and a quarter. Each month consisted of 30 days but 6 days instead of 5 were intercalated every fourth year.

The Ilāhī year was the True Solar year—*Sāl-i-Shamsī Haqiqī* and its length was 365d. 5h. 45m. 27s. "The days of the month were reckoned from 29 to 32" (*Āin*, Tr I, 30). It would seem that two months had only 29 days—four had 30, five 31 and one 32 days allotted to them.

the homonymous months of the three co-existing systems became a matter of absolute necessity.

This will be best illustrated by the following excerpts from the Mughal Chronicles in which the precise dates of certain events are carefully recorded by their authors in terms of the different Eras.

Thus Abūl Faḡl informs us that Akbar was born when "8h. 20m. had passed from the beginning of the night of 8th *Ābān Māh-i-Jalālī*, year 464 [اول شب هشتم آبان ماه جلالی] (۴۶۴), corresponding to 19th *Isfandārmaz Māh-i-Qadīmī* [Old], 911th year [نوزدهم اسفندار مزماو قدیمی], to the night of Sunday, 5th *Rajab*, 949th year *Hilālī* [Lunar] and to 6th *Kārtik*, of the 1599th year of the Hindus and to 16th *Tishrīnu-l-awwal-i-Rūmī* of the 1854th year "

*Akbarnāma*, Text, I, 18, l. 14, Trans. I. 54.

The same author states that the coronation of Akbar took place "about noon on Friday which was, according to visibility, the 2nd, but by mean calculation [امروسط], the 3rd of *Rab'iu-ṣ-ṣāni* of the 963rd Lunar [تومری] year, 10th *Isfandārmaz Māh-i-Jalālī* of the 477th year [دهم اسفندار مزماو جلالی سال (۴۷۷) چهارصد] 15th *Tir Māh-i-Qadīmī Yazdajirdī*, 925th year [پانزدهم تیر ماه قدیمی یزدجردی سال (۹۲۵) نهصد و بیست و پنجم] 14th *Shābāt Māh-i-Rūmī* of the 1867th year." [چهاردهم شباط] ماه رومی سال (۱۸۶۷) ایکهزار و هشتصد و هشت و هفتم

*Ibid.*, Text, II, 3, l. 21, Trans. II, 5.

So the same author records that the Prince Salīm was born "seven gharis after sunrise on the 18th day (*Rashn*) of *Shahrivar Māh-i-Ilāhī* of this auspicious year, corresponding to the 1st of *Āb Māh*, 1880th year *Rūmī* and 11 *Bahman Māh*, 983rd year *Qadīmī Yazdajirdī*, and the 24th day (*Dīn*) of *Shahrivar Māh* of the 491st year *Jalālī* and the 977th year *Hilālī*."

*Ibid.*, Text, II, 344, l. 6, Trans. II, 503.<sup>1</sup>

Similarly, the date<sup>1</sup> of Shāh Jahān's enthronement is thus formulated by the official chronicler.

هشتم شهر جمادی الثانی سال هزار و سی و هفت هجری مطابق بیست و پنجم بهمن ماه الهی و مرگ اسفندار مزماو جلالی سنه پانصد و چهل و نه

<sup>1</sup> I have given my own versions of these passages and made them as literally accurate as possible. Mr. Beveridge's renderings are somewhat free and he was confessedly unable to grasp the true meaning of the phrase امروسط (*Akbarnāma*, Tr. II, 3 and 542 note).

ملکشاہی ریست و ہفتم تیر ماہ قدیمی سنہ لہصد و نود و ہفت یزدجردی  
و چارم شباط ماہ رومی سنہ ہزار و لہصد و سی و نہ اسکندری •

*Bādishāhnāma*, Text, I, i, 87, l 2.

"8th Jumādā II, 1037 Hijrī corresponding to 25 *Bahman Māh-i-Ilāhī*, 1st *Isfandārmaz*, *Māh-i-Jalālī* of the 549th Malikshāhī year, and 27th *Tīr Māh-i-Qadīmī* of the 997th Yazdajardi year and 4 *Shabāt Māh-i-Rūmī* of the 1939th Alexandrian year [Era of Seleukus]."

Lastly, the date of Aurangzeb's second coronation is thus expressed in the *Ālamgīrnāma*.

"Sunday the 24th of the blessed month of Ramzān of the 1069th year of the Hijra, corresponding to 25 *Khurdād Māh-i-Ilāhī* and 27 *Khurdād Māh-i-Jalālī* of the 581st Malikshāhī year and 6 *Āzar Māh-i-Qadīmī* of the 1028th Yazdajardi year and 5 *Hazīrān Māh-i-Rūmī* of the 1970th Alexandrian year."

*Op. cit.*, Text, 361, two lines from foot.

The points which emerge from this lengthy discussion may be now summed up.

Akbar founded a New Solar Era, dating from the Nauroz of the first year of his reign, in 992 A.H., and thereafter the Hijrī or lunar reckoning was practically banished from the coinage and official records. This Era he called the *Tārīkh-i-Ilāhī*, and the epithet *Ilāhī* was appended to the names of the months to obviate the otherwise inevitable confusion between them and the homonymous months of the Yazdajardi and Jalālī systems or Eras. This *Tārīkh-i-Ilāhī* or *Ilāhī* Era continued to be employed up to the year of Akbar's death. It died with him and its terminal year was the 50th. It then ceased altogether to exist as an Era or Epoch. It was, so to say, played out, and went out of the field.

Jahāngīr adopted his father's system only in part. He did permit the years of his own reign to be reckoned from Nauroz to Nauroz and the Regnal dates on his coins are expressed in terms of the True or Natural solar year [سال شمسی حقیقی]. But he never employed his father's Era as an Era, and he did not continue to reckon in terms of the *Ilāhī* Epoch. He would not allow it to run on, and it is, therefore, incorrect to say that he "used" or "employed" the *Ilāhī* Era." He cut it off in its prime, when only fifty years of its life had run. If he had not done so, we should have had 51 *Ilāhī*, 52 *Ilāhī* and so on, upon his coins, instead of ۱ سنہ, ۲ سنہ etc., with or without the word جلوس. To put it differently he broke off the chain, 'retired' the *Ilāhī* Series and began another *de novo* from the first year of his own reign. He did not pretend to have established a New *Tārīkh* or Era himself. He never says of any event recorded in his 'Memoirs' that it occurred in such

and such a سنہ جہانگیری; but, at the same time, neither he nor the contemporary author of the *Iqbāl-nāma*, nor any other chronicler known to me speaks of any event of Jahāngir's reign as having taken place in such and such a سنہ الہی (year *Ilāhī*.) The expression universally employed is سنہ جلوس with or without some complimentary epithet like

مقدس - معلی - مبارک - شاعنشاہی - اشرف - اقدس - جہانگیری  
ہمایون or مہدنت مانوس.

The belief that Jahāngir "used the *Ilāhī Era*" is founded on the erroneous supposition that the word '*Ilāhī*' which occurs in the date formula of his coins, governs the word سنہ as well as the word جلوس. The true qualitative of سنہ is جلوس in all cases—in those cases in which it is clearly expressed, as well as those in which it is dropped. Mr. Lane Poole is perfectly correct in stating that "Jahāngir *abolished* the *Ilāhī era*," (B M.C. Introd. lxiii), but he goes very wide of the mark in declaring that 'Jahāngir *preserved* the *special term Ilāhī* in connexion with the regnal year' (*ibid.*). The 'special term' applies in all cases, to the name of the month *only* on Jahāngir's coins.

When Shāh Jahān came to the throne, the reckoning by *Jahāngir's* Julūs years came, *ipso facto*, to an end, and it was not allowed to go beyond the 22nd year, just as the serial dating in the *Ilāhī Era* had not been permitted to run on after the fiftieth. The second series was 'retired' on the death of Jahāngir just as its predecessor had been 'withdrawn' after the decease of Akbar. But Shāh Jahān did not stop there. He thought himself bound to take one step further in the direction of Orthodoxy. He would not permit the years of his reign to be reckoned in *solar* years at all, and ordered them to be recorded in terms of the lunar computation. At first he allowed the names of the solar *months* to appear on the coinage with the usual affix *Ilāhī*, but even this concession was withdrawn in the seventh year, and all the mints of the Empire, except one, forbidden to issue the type. Here Shāh Jahān was content to halt. The solar months would appear to have been still registered and the accounts kept in *Ilāhī months* for economy and convenience of audit in the Revenue Department.<sup>1</sup> This Emperor also continued throughout his long reign, to celebrate the Nauroz with the customary pomp and magnificence.

Aurangzeb took the next and last step. He abolished the

<sup>1</sup> The Mughal Emperor's reasons for keeping up the accounts in Solar months may be understood from what Mr. Irvine says of the Rules connected with Pay and Allowances "of officers and troops in the Imperial Service." *Army of the Indian Mughals*, Ch. II, p. 12ff.



Nauroz celebrations and did what he could to remove the last vestiges of Akbar's anti-Moslem innovation, notwithstanding the protests of his officials (*Khāft Khān*, II, 79 = E.D., VII, 241-2)

In a word, it was Shāh Jahān and not Aurangzeb who was the first to direct that the years of his reign should be counted in lunar years. The historical evidence on the subject is clear and explicit, and similar testimony is borne by the coins, the *Julūs* dates on which do not admit of a consistent interpretation on any other theory.

TABLE I.

Hijri equivalents of the thirty-two Naurozes (New Year's days according to the *Ilāhī* reckoning) of Shāh Jahān's reign.

Actual date of Accession.	25 Bahman (1037 A.H.)	8 Jumādā, II, 1037 A.H.	Bādishāhnāma, 14 Feb., I. i. 87.	1628 N.S.
I Nauroz	1 Farward-in, 1037	12 Rajab, 1037	.. I. i. 186-7	18 Mar. 1628
II ..	..	24 Rajab, 1038	.. I. i. 256	18 Mar. 1629
III ..	..	6 Sha'bān, 1039	.. I. i. 297	21 Mar. 1630
IV ..	..	17 Sha'bān, 1040	.. I. i. 364	21 Mar. 1631
V ..	..	28 Sha'bān, 1041	.. I. i. 418	20 Mar. 1632
VI ..	..	9 Ramzān, 1042	.. I. i. 473	20 Mar. 1633
VII ..	..	21 Ramzān, 1043	.. I. ii. 8	21 Mar. 1634
VIII ..	..	1 Shawwāl, 1044	.. I. ii. 77	20 Mar. 1635
IX ..	..	12 Shawwāl, 1045	.. I. ii. 141	20 Mar. 1636
X ..	..	22 Shawwāl, 1046	.. I. ii. 245	19 Mar. 1637
XI ..	..	4 Zī-l-qa'da, 1047	.. II. 90	20 Mar. 1638
XII ..	..	15 Zī-l-qa'da, 1048	.. II. 142	20 Mar. 1639
XIII ..	..	26 Zī-l-qa'da, 1049	.. II. 183	19 Mar. 1640
XIV ..	..	9 Zī-l-hajja, 1050	.. II. 226	22 Mar. 1641
XV ..	..	19 Zī-l-hajja, 1051	.. II. 284	21 Mar. 1642
XVI ..	..	30 Zī-l-hajja, 1052	.. II. 332	21 Mar. 1643
XVII ..	..	10 Muharram, 1054	.. II. 361	19 Mar. 1644
XVIII ..	..	21 Muharram, 1055	.. II. 413	19 Mar. 1645
XIX ..	..	3 Šafar, 1056	.. II. 491	21 Mar. 1646

<sup>1</sup> The *Bibl. Ind.* Text gives 8th Sha'bān, but this is an error, an example of the common confusion between ششم and هشتم.

XX	Nauroz	1 Farward-	14 Šafar, 1057 B. N. II.	635 21 Mar. 1647
		in, 1037		
XXI	"	"	25 Šafar, 1058 Wāriḡ M.S.,	
			p. 48	21 Mar. 1648
XXII	"	"	6 Rab'ī, I, 1059	p. 119 20 Mar. 1649
XXIII	"	"	17 Rab'ī, I, 1060	p. 218 20 Mar. 1650
XXIV	"	"	28 Rab'ī, I, 1061	21 Mar. 1651
XXV	"	"	9 Rab'ī, II, 1062	p. 267 20 Mar. 1652
XXVI	"	"	20 Rab'ī, II, 1063	20 Mar. 1653
XXVII	"	"	1 Jumādā, I, 1064	20 Mar. 1654
XXVIII	"	"	12 Jumādā, I, 1065	20 Mar. 1655
XXIX	"	"	23 Jumādā, I, 1066	19 Mar. 1656
XXX	"	"	3 Jumādā, II, 1067	19 Mar. 1657
XXXI	"	"	14 Jumādā, II, 1068	19 Mar. 1658
XXXII	"	"	24 Jumādā, II, 1069	19 Mar. 1659

TABLE II.

Ilāhi equivalents of the initial days of the thirty-three years of Shāh Jahān's reign.

Actual date of Accession.	8 Jumādā II, 1037 A.H.	25 Bahmān (1037 A.H.)	Bād. Nām	14 Feb., 1628 A.C.
Official date of Accession.	1 Jumādā II, (1037 A.H.)	18 Bahmān (1037 A.H.)	<i>Ibid.</i>	7 Feb., 1628
II Lunar year	1 Jumādā, II, 1038	8 Bahmān.	"	I. i. 129 (New style)
III	" " 1 " 1039	26 Dai	"	I. i. 292 16 Jan. 1630
IV	" " 1 " 1040	15 Dai	"	I. i. 337 5 Jan. 1631
V	" " 1 " 1041	4 Dār	"	I. i. 408 25 Dec. 1631
VI	" " 1 " 1042	23 Āzar	"	I. i. 448 14 Dec. 1632
VII	" " 1 " 1043	12 Āzar	"	I. i. 545 3 Dec. 1633
VIII	" " 1 " 1044	2 Āzar	"	I. ii. 62 22 Nov. 1634
IX	" " 1 " 1045	20 Ābān	"	I. ii. 120 12 Nov. 1635
X	" " 1 " 1046	9 Ābān	"	I. ii. 222 31 Oct. 1636
XI	" " 1 " 1047	28 Mihr	B. N. II.	3 21 Oct. 1637
XII	" " 1 " 1048	17 Mihr	" II.	114 10 Oct. 1638
XIII	" " 1 " 1049	6 Mihr	" II.	161 29 Sept. 1639
XIV	" " 1 " 1050	28 Shahrivar	" II.	207 18 Sept. 1640
XV	" " 1 " 1051	17 Shahrivar	" II.	243 7 Sept. 1641
XVI	" " 1 " 1052	5 Shahrivar	" II.	307 27 Aug. 1642
XVII	" " 1 " 1053	25 Amardād	" II.	340 17 Aug. 1643
XVIII	" " 1 " 1054	14 Amardād	" II.	385 5 Aug. 1644
XIX	" " 1 " 1055	3 Amardād	" II.	430 25 July 1645
XX	" " 1 " 1056	24 Tir	" II.	544 15 July 1646

<sup>1</sup> The Bibliotheca Indica Text gives 13th but this is an error due to

XXI	Lunar	1	Jumādā, II,	13	Tīr	Wāris MS.	92	4 July	1647
	year				1057				
XXII	"	"	"	"	1058	3	Tīr	"	"
XXIII	"	"	"	"	1059	23	Khūrdād	"	"
XXIV	"	"	"	"	1060	12	Khūrdād	"	"
XXV	"	"	"	"	1061	2	Khūrdād		
XXVI	"	"	"	"	1062	23	Ardībihisht		
XXVII	"	"	"	"	1063	12	Ardībihisht		
XXVIII	"	"	"	"	1064	2	Ardībihisht		
XXIX	"	"	"	"	1065	22	Farwardīn		
XXX	"	"	"	"	1066	11	Farwardīn		
XXXI	"	"	"	"	1067	1	Farwardīn		
XXXII	"	"	"	"	1068	22	Isfandārmaz		
XXXIII	"	"	"	"	1069	11	Isfandārmaz		

<sup>1</sup> The Julian equivalents of the Hijri dates are taken from Mr. Stanley Lane Poole's Summary of Wüstenfeld's Tables.

## XVII. THE TITLE BAHĀDUR.

The titular adjunct 'Bahādur' figures on the coins of at least four Emperors of the House of Tīmūr. It is to be found on every one of Aurangzeb's rupees of the non-couplet or Muhiu-d-dīn type and the muhrs uttered by the mint of Akbarnagar (I.M.C. No. 1121) and the somewhat doubtful and unassigned mint of Malikanagar (P.M.C. No. 1507). By his son it was incorporated in or assimilated to his regnant designation or throne-name. It also makes its appearance on a rare Lāhor issue of Muḥammad Shāh of which only three specimens are known (P.M.C. No. 2554). Lastly, it is almost invariably present on the mintages in both metals of Aḥmad Shāh, the only known exceptions being the rare couplet-rupees of Imtyāzgarh and Kashnīr. In fact, the epithet is such an arresting feature of that Emperor's coinages that European numismatists have sometimes used language implying that 'Bahādur' was his specific designation or differential appellative and that its occurrence on any Mughal rupee or muhr was sufficient to restrict its assignment to Aḥmad. It will be seen that this short and easy method of identification is likely to prove a delusion and a snare and that at least two of Aḥmad Shāh's predecessors had borne the title.

In view of this misleading implication, it may not be unnecessary to draw pointed attention to a statement of somewhat similar import which occurs in the *Miftahu-t-Tawārīkh* of the usually accurate Beale. It is unfortunately impossible to trace it to its source, but it is demonstrably unhistorical. He avers that "when the Emperor's full style and titles [القاب] were fixed, those who possessed a critical knowledge of court-etiquette [قاعدو شناسان خورد بین] respectfully urged that 'Bahādur' was a *laqab* intended for only Amīrs and nobles, that none of the descendants of Amīr Tīmūr the Ṣāhib Qirān had ever given himself this title, and that they had always left it to their servants. But this was not approved or accepted [منظور] by the Emperor" (*op. cit.*, Kānpūr Lith., 327, l. 17).

The fact of the matter is that 'Bahādur' was originally an old and highly-prized Mongol title borne only by renowned heroes and princes, and at least one great ruler of the house of Chingiz, Sultān Abū Sa'id Bahādur Khān, the son of Uljaitū ((716-736 A.H.) is known to have publicly assumed and been proud of it. "Bahādur," writes Sir Henry Yule, "is one of the terms which the hosts of Chingiz Khān brought with them from the Mongol Steppes. In the Mongol genealogies, we find Yesugāi Bahādur, the father of Chingiz, and many more

Subutai Bahādur, one of the great soldiers of Mongol host, twice led it to the conquest of the Southern Russia, twice to that of Northern China. \* \* \* Benfey has suggested that the word originated in Skt. *Bhagadhara* (happiness-possessing). But the late lamented Prof. A. Schiefner \* \* \* was strongly of opinion that the word was rather a corruption \* \* \* of the Zend *Bagha-puthra* 'Son of God' and thus but another form of the famous term *K'aghfūr*, by which the old Persians rendered the Chinese *Tien-tsz* ('Son of Heaven') applying it to the Emperor of China." (Hobson Jobson, p. 49.) Mons. Clement Huart informs us that "the word is met with as early as 927 of our era in the name of the Bulgarian Chief Albogotur which is explained as *Alp bagatūr* 'the brave hero'" by Marquart. (Houtsma, Encyclopaedia of Islam, s.v.).

Timūr declares that he "ordained that 'every Ameer who should reduce a kingdom, or defeat an army should be exalted by three things: by a title of honour, by the *Tugh*, and by the *Nakkāra*, and should be dignified by the title *Bahaudur*.'"

(*Institutes*, Eng. Trans. by Joseph White. Ed. 1783, p. 283.)

The high esteem in which it continued to be held by the nations among whom it had been introduced by the Mongols and Tatars is shown by the fact that Shāh Isma'il the founder of the Šafavī dynasty did not disdain publicly to assume it. This is proved by his coins on which his names and titles are emblazoned thus:—

السلطان العادل الكامل الهادي الوالي ابوالمظفر شاه اسمعيل بهادر خان

الصفوى .

(R. S. Poole, Coins of the Shāhs of Persia. Nos. 1-18.)

The mintages of his son Tahmāsp display the same honorific (*ibid.*, Nos. 20, 24a, 25, 26, 27), and coins of Bābur have been discovered with the Shi'a formula and the names of the twelve Imāms, on which his name is given as "Sultān Bābur Bahādur." (*Ibid.*, Introd. xvii-xix.)<sup>1</sup>

This is not all. In the 'Letter of Victory' [فتح نامه] which was drafted by Bābur's secretary, Shaikh Zain in his best, i.e. most turgid and inflated style, after the battle with Rāna Sanga of Chitor, the name of Prince Humāyūn occurs twice and on both occasions, has this honorary affix. "In the right wing," we read, "was the exalted son, honourable and fortunate, the befriended of Destiny, the star of the sign of Sovereignty and Success, sun of the sphere of the Khalifate, lauded of slave and free, Muhammad Humāyūn Bahādur"

<sup>1</sup> So when Bābur took Samarqand by a surprise attack in 906 A.H. (1500-1 A.C.), one of the poets of the day commemorated the triumph by the chronogram *Fāth-i-Bābur Bahādur*. Memoirs, Tr. A. S. Beveridge, 135=Erskine's Tr. 89.

(Memoirs of Babur, Tr. Beveridge, 566. See also *ibid.*, 569 or Erskine's Trans. 363, 364. The Letter is also reproduced in the *Bādishāhnāma*. Bibl. Ind. Text, I. i p.p. 54. l. 4 and 56. l. 7.)

It is the tendency of all swelling epithets to degenerate and it would appear that this particular honorific did not escape this fate among the people with whom it had originated. This deterioration proceeded so far that it became (like the English King, Prince, Duke, Earl, Lord, Baron, etc.) a mere personal name or surname and in the narrative of the *Akbarnāma* it is frequently found in connection with Mughals who had accompanied Bābur or his descendants to Hindustān.

I have not seen it anywhere explicitly stated that Akbar or Jahāngīr ever followed the example of their ancestor Timūr in expressly conferring the distinction as a reward for gallantry or exceptionally meritorious service in the field. The earliest instances crop up only in the reign of Shāh Jahān and the title was then very sparingly bestowed. Indeed, I have not noted more than ten cases in the four hundred pages which Khāfi Khān devotes to his long reign of thirty years, viz. 'Abdulla Khān Bahādur Firūz Jang (I. 426), Khān-i-Daurān Bahādur (I. 520, 569), Sayyad Khān Jahān Bahādur (I. 583, 750), Sayyad Asālat Khān Bahādur (I. 583) Sa'id Khān Bahādur (I. 569) Shāyasta Khān Khān Jahān Bahādur (I. 758), Rustam Khān Bahādur (I. 759), Qulich Khān Bahādur (I. 759), Shāh Shujā' Bahādur, and Muhammad Aurangzeb Bahādur. Leaving out of account the last two names, it may be observed that all the other eight recipients were among the most renowned military leaders of the Empire, great marshals and men of war who had been the heroes of a hundred fights. Coming now to the other two persons mentioned, it is found in juxtaposition with the name of the prince Shujā' even in the chronicle of the very first year of the reign (*Bādishāhnāma*, I. i. 97) though the reason of its bestowal is nowhere mentioned. It is otherwise in the case of Aurangzeb upon whom it was conferred under circumstances of considerable interest, which can justly claim the attention of every student of his coins. The circumstances are described at great length in the *Bādishāhnāma* of 'Abdul Hamīd Lahori.

They are also the subject of an elaborate 'Qasida' or effusion of the muse of Shāh Jahān's laureate, Taleb Kalīm. The chronicler's account as well as the poetical panegyric have been recently translated by Maulavi Nūr Baksh in the Journal of the Panjab Historical Society (Vol. II, 1912, An Historical Elephant Fight, pp. 50-74), and Mr. Jadunath Sarkar has two pages about the incident in his History. It will suffice for our purpose to give the marrow of the matter in the words of the latter.

"One incident of his boyhood made his fame ring through-

out India and showed what stuff he was made of. It was his on counter with a fighting elephant on 28th May, 1633 [29 Zī-l-qa'da 1042 A.H]. That morning Shah Jahan, \* \* \* set two huge elephants, Sudhakar and Surat Sundar \* \* to fight. \* \* The Emperor hastened to see the fight, his eldest three sons riding a few paces before him. Aurangzib, intent on seeing the fight edged his way very close to the elephants. The brutes after a while let go their grip and each stepped back a little. Sudhakar's spirit was fully roused. Losing sight of his opponent he turned to vent his wrath on the prince standing by. Trumpeting fiercely, the moving mountain charged Aurangzib. The prince then only fourteen years old, calmly stood his ground, kept his horse from turning back, and flung his spear at the elephant's head. All was now confusion and alarm \* \* \* The animal came on and felled Aurangzeb's horse with a sweep, of his long tusk. But the prince jumped up from the ground, drew his sword, and faced the raging beast. The unequal combat would have soon ended fatally for the heroic boy, but succour was at hand. \* \* \* The danger thus passed away \* \* \* Shah Jahan clasped Aurangzib to his bosom, praised his courage, gave him the title of *Bahadur* or 'hero,' and covered him with presents. (History of Aurangzib, I. 9-11.)

The prince was not unjustly proud of the epithet which is, after this event, almost invariably associated with his name in the contemporary Chronicles of the reign of his father. (*Bādishāhnāma*, I. i. 538, ii. 52, 65, 82, II. 11, 91, 104, etc.) and took care to retain it as part of his *ilqāb* on coming to the throne. A reference to the article on the 'Imperial Style and Titles' will show that it is scrupulously included by all the contemporary annalists in their statements of the formula adopted for the 'khutba and the sikka.' The fact that it is stamped on all his mintages of the non-couplet type proves that he did not think it beneath the dignity of an Emperor to bear. He subsequently bestowed it upon his eldest son Muhammad Mu'azzam who was first given the title of Shāh 'Ālam. Afterwards, he was raised a step higher and styled 'Shāh 'Ālam Bahādur Shāh' in the thirty-third year of the reign, and this was wisely retained by him as his throne-name. Indeed, it would have been difficult to invent anything more comprehensive and high-sounding.

But the Dekkan wars of Aurangzeb were responsible, as Khāfi Khān complains (Text, I, p. 255) for the multiplication and consequent degradation of all titles and honours. The histories of Aurangzeb show that it was bestowed on at least eighteen persons in the reign of that Emperor. Bahādur Shāh Shāh 'Ālam conferred it on a dozen others during his brief reign and there were at least six recipients in the seven years of Farrukhsiyar's tutelage under the Sayyads. We may safely presume that it was distributed with even greater liberality

and less discrimination during the feeble sway of the insouciant Muhammad Shāh, as I have noted nine instances in Khāfi Khān's account of the first four years of his regime. We may also take it that it came to be held in no great esteem in consequence and it is conceivable that some of the advisers of his son may have attempted to dissuade the latter from publicly assuming it in his Imperial person. But the reason said by the author of the *Miṣṭāḥ* or his authority to have been put forward by these sticklers was historically fallacious and betrayed their ignorance of its true origin as well as of the dignity and glory which it had possessed in the eyes of many ancestors of the Emperor's who had not disdained to wear it.



## XVIII. THE WEIGHT OF THE MUGHAL TOLA.

"The unit of the British Indian ponderary system," writes James Prinsep, "is called the *Tola*. It weighs 180 grains English Troy weight." (Useful Tables, Ed. 1834, p. 61.) But the value here assigned to the tola was only established by the East India Company's Regulation No. VII of 1833, and the object of so fixing it was merely to make it identical in weight with the rupee of "the equalised monetary system of British India" which was then first introduced. (*Ibid.*, p. 61.) In other words, the valuation was purely factitious, and there are no grounds for assuming that the tola was calculated at the same rate in earlier times. In fact, Prinsep himself declares that "the average of several gold and silver *Jilālīs* of Akber's reign, found in good preservation, gives 15·5 grains [as the value of the māsha of Akbar's times], which also agrees with the weight of the māsha of many parts of Hindustan." (*Ibid.*, 17.) This necessarily involves the recognition of a tola of 186 grains. Unfortunately, Prinsep's argument is vitiated, as Thomas has pointed out, by a radical error of fact. He was misled by Gladwin's translation of the *Ā'in* in which the weight of the Akbari rupee was given (on the authority of the not very correct manuscript on which that version was founded) as only  $11\frac{1}{2}$  māshas, i.e. at  $\frac{1}{2}$  of a māsha or about "four grains below its true standard" (Chronicles, 405).

It is now a numismatological commonplace that the issue weights of Akbar's ordinary muhr and of his rupee were 11 and  $11\frac{1}{2}$  māshas respectively, and it is apparently a simple problem to deduce from these equations the value of 12 māshas or 1 tola with the assistance of his existing coins. Unfortunately, it is no easy matter to fix precisely the theoretical contents of either of these monetary types in terms of the English ponderary scale. All that can be said is that the probabilities point to their having been about 170 grains and a fraction for the muhr and 178 grains and a fraction for the rupee (B.M.C. Introd., p. lxxvi).<sup>1</sup>

Mr. Stanley Lane Poole, takes the issue-weight of the ordinary muhr to have been 170 grs troy and puts that of the rupee at 180 grs. Now Abū'l Fazl explicitly gives the weight of the two coins in the Indian scale as 11 and  $11\frac{1}{2}$  māshas respectively. Mr. Lane Poole's second figure would imply that the moiety of the māsha was equivalent to 10 grs., the māsha itself to 20 and the tola to 240 grs.—suppositions which are obviously inadmissible.

Now if 11 māshas were = 170 grains

$$\begin{aligned} 12 \text{ māshas or 1 tola would be} &= \frac{170}{11} \times \frac{12}{11} = \frac{2040}{121} \\ &= 185 \frac{5}{11} = 185 \cdot 45 \\ &\text{grs.} \end{aligned}$$

Again, if

11½ māshas were = 178 grs

$$\begin{aligned} 12 \text{ māshas or 1 tola would be} &= \frac{178}{11\frac{1}{2}} \times \frac{12}{11} \times \frac{2}{3} \\ &= \frac{4272}{33} = 185 \frac{1}{3} \\ &= 185 \cdot 73 \text{ grs.} \end{aligned}$$

Thirdly, Abūl Faḡl says that the Ilāhī muhr weighed 12 māshas, 1½ ratīs (Āīn. Tr. I, 30). Now B.M.C. No. 165 is an undoubted Ilāhī muhr and its actual weight is 187 grs. (*Vide* also Nos. 163 and 176 which are absolutely identical in weight but differ very slightly as to the arrangement of the formula constituting the legend).

Now if

12 māshas, 1½ ratīs or 12½ māshas = 187 grs.

$$\begin{aligned} 12 \text{ māshas or 1 tola} &= \frac{187}{12\frac{1}{2}} \times \frac{12}{11} \times \frac{1}{1\frac{1}{2}} = 183 \frac{2}{3} \text{ grs.} \\ &= 183 \cdot 6 \text{ grs.} \end{aligned}$$

This gives a much lower return for the tola, but it is, almost certainly, due to no allowance having been made for abrasion and the intentional mint-standard was perhaps two, if not three grains higher.<sup>1</sup> If the issue-weight is supposed to have been 189 grs., we should get for the tola a value of 185·5 grs.

Let us take another gauge. There is an exceptionally heavy gold-piece of this Emperor in the British Museum which weighs 838 grs. and is of A.H. 971 (Cat. No. 23). A duplicate with the date 982 A.H. which is in the Cabinet of the Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society scales 841 grs. (*Journal*, 1891, p. 33). A very similar piece of Jahāngir in the British Museum (No. 305) touches 843 grs. I have shown elsewhere that the first two pieces are the twentieth parts of the second or less heavy type of the *Sihansa* which weighed 91 tolas 8 māshas, and was "in value equal to 100 round muhurs." (Āīn, Tr. I, 28, 29.) They are, therefore, five-muhr pieces like the very similar specimen which bears the name of Jahāngir. Now if

$$\frac{1}{20} \text{ of } 91\frac{1}{2} \text{ tolas} = 841 \text{ grs.}$$

$$\frac{1}{20} \times 275 = \frac{275}{20} = \frac{55}{4} \text{ tolas} = 841 \text{ grs.}$$

$$1 \text{ tola} = \frac{55}{4} \times \frac{12}{11} = \frac{165}{2} = 183 \cdot 49 \text{ grs.}$$

<sup>1</sup> The weight in māshas of the Ilāhī muhr and the square *La'li-Jalālī* was, according to Abūl Faḡl (Āīn, Tr. I, 30) identical. I have shown elsewhere that B.M.C. No. 70 is a square *La'li-Jalālī* of the old or kalima type. It touches 188 grs. and this is sufficient to show that the original mint standard of both these types must have been at least 188 grs. if not a grain more.

This figure is still lower, but here again the possibility of the coins having lost some grains by wear should not be overlooked. Single round muhrs touching 169 and even 170 grs. (P.M.C. Nos. 144, 152, 135, and I.M.C. Nos. 68, 69, 66, 83, 88, 95,) are not uncommon. If the issue weight of the five-muhr piece was five times the *actual* weight of several specimens of the single muhr, it would have been 850 grs. ( $170 \times 5$ ). In that case, the value deduced for the tola would be 185.45 grs. ( $\frac{850}{5} \times \frac{100}{100} = \frac{850}{1} \times \frac{100}{100} = \frac{85000}{100} = 850$ ).

In this connection three points should be borne in mind, Akbar's muhrs were almost entirely pure and contained little or no alloy. They were consequently liable to lose more by abrasion than the English sovereign, which has been estimated by Jevons to lose at least 0.043 grain annually, that is, about one grain in twenty years, although it is only 11 parts fine. (Money, p. 157.) Secondly, the rate of wear varies inversely with the size of the coin. "A large coin \* \* \* suffers comparatively little wear because the surface increases much less rapidly in proportion than the contents of the coin." (*Ibid.*, 158.) The Akbari muhr was, it should be remembered, both smaller and heavier than the sovereign. Lastly, as the legend was engraved in much higher relief than on the sovereign, the loss on that account also must have been greater. (See *ibid.*, 163.) Everything considered, it is safe to say that the loss by wear must have been at least one grain for every ten years of circulation, and this fact should not be lost sight of in these calculations.

Lastly, Abū Fazl positively declares that the dām was equal to 1 tola 8 māshas and 7 surkhs or rattis. With a postulated weight of only 323 grs. for the dām (many coins actually touch that figure),

323 grs. would be =  $\frac{100}{100}$  tolas.

∴ 1 tola would be =  $\frac{323}{100} \times \frac{100}{100} = \frac{32300}{100} = 323$  grs.

It may be added that the historian Firishta who wrote about 1611 A.C., says of the *paisa* of his day that it "weighed  $\frac{1}{2}$  tola short of 2 tolas." [مقل پول این زمان دو توله ربع کم.] Lakhnau Lith. I, 114, l. 15, Briggs, Rise of the Mahomedan, Power, Calcutta Reprint 1908, Vol. I, p. 360<sup>1</sup>, i.e.  $1\frac{1}{2}$  tolas.

Now if

$\frac{1}{2}$  tolas = 323 grs.

1 tola =  $\frac{323}{\frac{1}{2}} \times \frac{1}{2}$   
 $= \frac{323 \times 2}{1} = 646$   
 $= 646$  grs.

<sup>1</sup> The Calcutta Reprint of Briggs' translation give the weight of the piece as " $\frac{1}{2}$  of a tola," but this is demonstrably erroneous.

It should be remembered, however, that Firishta does not profess to give the exact weight of the  $\text{پرو}$  or paisa, i.e. the *dām* of his day, but only its approximate equivalent. Abū Fazl's more precise statement, 1 tola, 8 māshas 7 surkhs is just one *surkh* (rati) short of  $1\frac{1}{4}$  tolas, or 1 tola, 9 māshas

This is what can be gathered from the *Āīn*. It will be seen that though these equations relate to different types of coins, they are all consistent with one another and yield, when proper allowances are made for possible sources of error, practically the same result—a value of about 185.5 grains for the Akbari tola.

Let us now see what the Emperor Jahāngīr has to tell us. This does not amount to much. In the first place, he equates the tola with  $2\frac{1}{2}$  current or common misqāls of Persia (*Tūzūk*, Tr. I, 12, 116). Statements of similar import are to be found in the *Iqbāl-nāma* (Text, 69, 247) and the *Bādishāh-nāma* also (Text, l. i ii. 79, l. 10), but as the weight of the misqāl is, if anything, less easily determined than that of the tola, this equation or rather conventional formula of the school-books makes no useful contribution to the solution of the problem. But in the passage cited below, the Imperial author has recorded the result of an actual weighment of Akbari rupees in terms of the tola which appears, *prima facie*, likely to make a substantial addition to our knowledge. We read:—

“On the same day [22 Rab'i II, 1016], they brought a peach from Istālif \* \* \* I had not seen a peach of such a size, and ordered it to be weighed, and it came to 63 Akbari rupees or 60 tolas.”

(*Tūzūk*, Tr. I, 117; Text, 56, eight lines from foot.)

Now if 63 rupees were = 60 tolas of 12 māshas each, 1 rupee would be =  $\frac{60}{63} \times \frac{1}{12} \times \frac{1}{63} = \frac{7}{63 \times 63} = \frac{11 \frac{2}{3}}{63} = 11.428$  māshas. It may be noted that this is very close upon the issue-weight of the rupee as given by Abū Fazl, viz. 11.5 māshas—the difference per unit being only .072, i.e.  $\frac{7}{1000}$  or about  $\frac{1}{14}$  of a māsha. This is not only confirmatory of Abū Fazl's statement, but indicates that the coins weighed were fairly well up to the standard and not much worn. Postulating then that the average loss by abrasion was one troy grain ( $\frac{1}{1600}$  of a māsha would be about equal to the same), and the theoretical standard to have been 178 grs.,  $(178 - 1) \times (63)$  grs. would be = 60 tolas, or  $177 \times 63 = 11151$  grs. = 60 tolas :

∴ 1 tola would be =  $\frac{11151}{60} = 185\frac{51}{60}$  grs. = 185.85 grs.

It may be admitted that nothing like certitude can be claimed or is attainable in such cases. Everything depends on the average weight of the rupees of the equation. If it is supposed to have been 176 grs., the value of the tola would be

only 184·8 grs., while if it is reckoned at 175 grs. the tola would have to be placed at the still lower figure of 183·75 grs.

The only other piece of evidence from indigenous sources that remains to be cited is a statement occurring in the History of Khāfi Khān about Bahādur Shāh Shāh 'Ālam I having commanded the issue of a rupee of 12 māshas, that is, increased its weight by half a māsha and equated it exactly with the tola. The matter has been discussed already by the present writer in Num. Sup. XXVIII, Art. 176, where the passage is quoted from Dowson's Translation. (E.D. VII. 393 = Bibl. Ind. Text, II, 574, five lines from foot.)

I have there pointed out that the *ipsisimma verba* of the Imperial Farmān on the subject are transcribed from the original or a copy existing in the archives of the Šūba of Ahmadābād by the author of the *Mirāt-i-Ahmadī*. (Bombay Lith. 1307 A.H. Part I, 408, ll 10-13.) As this statement also has been reproduced in the original Persian as well as in an English version in that article it will suffice to say here that the Indian Museum contains four rupees of this Emperor which turn the scale at 184 and 185 grs. (Catalogue, Nos. 1666, 1666a, 1667-8), and that the British Museum also possesses some of the same weight (Brown, L.M.C. I, p. 40). It may be permissible to repeat what I then wrote and point out that "if the *actual* weights of these coins which were intended to be equal to the *tola*, are 184 and 185 grs. the *tola* itself must have weighed at least as much, if not a grain or two more, in the time of Bahādur Shāh Shāh 'Ālam I." (*Loc. cit.*, p. 69.)

Let us now see if it is possible to glean more exact information on the subject from the writings of European travellers and merchants. I must, first of all, mention a dictum of Sir Thomas Roe's. "The Portugalles," he writes in his Journal on 29th May, 1516, "went before the King with a present, and a Balass Ruby to sell that weighed as was reported, 13 *tole*, 2 *tole* and a half being an ounce" (Embassy, Ed. Foster, 189.) If it is the Troy ounce that is meant, this would make the tola equivalent to 192 grs. ( $480 \times \frac{1}{2}$ ). It may be, however, said without hesitation or disrespect that Sir Thomas cannot be accepted as an authority on the metrology of the Mughal period. He would, as a matter of fact, seem to be naïvely repeating a popular equation or formula which, like all such expressions, is devoid of accuracy and is at best but approximately correct. Indeed, the formula '2½ tolas make an ounce' is even *now* current and may be heard any day in the Indian bazars, although the tola of our day is equivalent to 180 grs, and  $180 \times 2\frac{1}{2} = 450$  only. But if Sir Thomas appears to have been guilty of a palpable over-statement, two of his contemporaries are chargeable with the opposite error of considerably undervaluing the tola. Mr. Thomas Kerridge and Mr. Thomas Rastell write in a letter addressed to the Governor of the East

India Company from Sūrāt on 9-15 February, 1618, that "the tola of this place \* \* is troy weight one-third of an ounce, five graynes less." (Foster, *English Factories in India*, 1618-1621, p. 57. See also *ibid.*, 47 note, where the same equation is said to be transcribed on the margin of an earlier communication).<sup>1</sup> This would mean that the tola was equal to only 155 grs. which is obviously too low. Elsewhere however, we find a very different statement. Francis Fettiplace writes, while sending '20 toles of musk' from Agra to the Company in London that '52½ tole make a seer of 30 pices.' (1st December, 1618, *ibid.*, p. 47.)

Now this is, curiously enough, just what we have found the historian Firishta stating. The  $\text{دَم}$  or *pice* (i.e. *dām*) of his own day, he tells us, weighed 1 tola and three quarters, and  $30 \times 1\frac{3}{4} = 52\frac{1}{2}$ . It might be remembered that the weight assigned by Abūl Faḥl to the *dām* or *pice*, 1 tola, 8 māshas and 7 ratīs, differs from the above by only one ratt, and that this would make the tola about 184.57 grs. ( $37.5 \div 1\frac{3}{4} = 37.5 \times \frac{4}{7} = 21.42 = 184\frac{1}{2}$ ).

We have seen Messrs. Kerridge and Rastell asserting in 1619 A.C. that the Sūrāt tola was equal to only 155 grs. troy, and I have remarked that this figure is too low to be admissible.

But in another letter written also from Sūrāt by Kerridge himself as President on 29th November, 1626, he speaks, not once but twice, of "2½ tolas 3 vals making one ounce." (*English Factories*, 1624-29, p. 156.) And this same equation is endorsed by President Breton and the Council of Sūrāt who speak of "accompting 2 tolas 19 vals to the ounce, which we find to be the exact weight." (28 Nov., 1644, *Eng. Fact.*, 1642-1645, p. 209.)

Now 32 vāls make a tola (Fryer, *New Account*, Ed. 1698, p. 206), so 2½ tolas and 3 vāls are exactly the same as 2 tolas and 19 vāls and if

$$2\frac{1}{2} \text{ tolas} = 480 \text{ grs.}$$

$$1 \text{ tola} = \frac{480}{2} = 240 \text{ grs.}$$

Lastly, Mr. Foster informs us that on the original record of a Sūrāt consultation dated 12th January, 1633, there is a marginal note made in London' in which it is explicitly stated that a 'toule of gould is 7 dwt. and 16 graines' (*ibid.*, 1630-3, p. 262), which means that the tola was reckoned at about 184 grs. troy.

<sup>1</sup> In such cases, any emendation seems uncalled for and impertinent, but it may be permissible to suggest that  $\frac{1}{3}$  is a misreading for  $\frac{1}{4}$ . A mistake of this sort is very likely to occur in old manuscripts. Thus.

$$\frac{1}{4} \times 7 = \frac{7}{4} = 1.75 \text{ and } 1.75 - .5 = 1.25.$$

I must now extract three statements on this subject which arrest the attention of the reader in Thevenot's Travels. In his chapter on the 'Weights and Money of Surat,' this traveller who arrived at the Bar of that town on 10th January, 1666, writes :—

"All Gold and Silver is weighed by the *Tole* and the *Tole* contains forty *Mangelis*, which makes fifty-six of our *Caracts*, or thirty-two *Vales*, or otherwise fourscore and sixteen *Gongys* [i.e. *Ratls*]. The *Vale* contains three *Gongys* and two *Toles* a third and a half, answers to an Ounce of *Paris* weight, and a *Tole* weighs as much as a *Roupie*." (Travels, Eng. Trans., 1687, Part III, p. 18.) Now Thevenot says of the *Mangelin* that it was =  $5\frac{3}{5}$  French grains. (*Ibid.*, p. 98)

Then the *tola* of 40 *mangelins* would be =  $40 \times 5\frac{3}{5} = \frac{40}{1} \times \frac{28}{5} = 224$  French grains.

According to Ball (Tavernier's Indian Travels, I, 416),

1 French grain = .837 of a grain troy.

∴ 224 French grains =  $\frac{224}{1} \times \frac{837}{1000} = \frac{224 \times 837}{1000} = 187.488$  grs. troy.

But Thevenot also says that

1 *tola* = 56 of our, i.e. French carats.

Now Ball reckons the French carat at

3.169 grs. troy. (*Op. cit.*, I, 417.)

∴  $\frac{56}{1} \times 3.169 = 177.464$  grs. troy would be the weight of a *tola*.

This is ten grains below the first result, and there must be a mistake somewhere. It is not improbable that the French carat has been under-estimated by Ball.

This is not all. Thevenot has yet another equation still. "Two toles, a third and a half answer," he says, "to an ounce of *Paris* weight." Now we have it from Ball that 1 French ounce = 482.312 grs. troy. (*Op. cit.*, I, 418.)

∴ 1 *tola* would be equal (leaving out the fraction) to about

$$482 \div (2 + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{2}) = 482 \div 2\frac{5}{6} = \frac{482}{2\frac{5}{6}} = \frac{482 \times 6}{17} = 170\frac{2}{17} \text{ grs. troy.}$$

There can be no doubt of an error here. Thevenot's Journal was published, after his untimely death, from his papers and was edited, translated and printed by individuals who had but an indifferent knowledge of Indian weights and measures. I venture to suggest that what he wrote was probably 2 *tolas*, a third and a *quarter*.

In this amended form, the statement would mean that

$$2 + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} = 2\frac{7}{12} \text{ tolas} = 482 \text{ grs. troy}$$

∴ 1 *tola* would be =  $\frac{482}{2\frac{7}{12}} \times \frac{12}{12} = \frac{482 \times 12}{25} = 186.58$  grs. troy.

We have next to consider a statement which occurs in the works of a much more widely-known author—the jeweller Tavernier. It is expressed in very different terms and it is therefore all the more remarkable that the value of the tola which it yields agrees almost exactly with that arrived at from the first of Thevenot's three equations. In Book I, chapter II, of his *Indian Travels*, Tavernier writes :—

“ Throughout the Empire of the Great Mogul all the gold and silver is weighed by a weight called *tola*, which amounts to 9 *deniers* 8 *grains* of our weight.” (*Op. cit.* Tr. Ball, I, 14.) A few lines further on the same page, he declares that “ one hundred tolas are equivalent in our weight to 38 ounces 21 *deniers* 8 *grains* ” ( $\frac{100}{1} \times 9\frac{8}{10} = \frac{100}{1} \times \frac{98}{10} = 2800 \text{ deniers} = \frac{2800}{20} \times \frac{1}{24} = 58\frac{1}{3} \text{ ounces} = 38 \text{ ounces, } 21 \text{ deniers, } 8 \text{ grains.}$ )

Now the French ounce is equivalent to 482·312 grains troy and there are in the ounce 24 deniers and in each denier 24 grains (Ball, *op. cit.*, I, 416.)

Thus the tola of 9 deniers and 8 grains =  $9\frac{8}{10}$  deniers.

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{98}{10} \times \frac{1}{24} \times \frac{482312}{1000} = \frac{33761}{1000} \\ &= 187\frac{11}{100} \\ &= 187\cdot6 \text{ grains.} \end{aligned}$$

It will be seen that Tavernier assigns to the tola a higher value than any other writer, Oriental or European. It is no doubt true, as I have already pointed out, that this result is very close to, if not absolutely identical with, that obtained from the first equation of his contemporary and compatriot, Thevenot, — *viz.* 187·488, grs troy but it may be fairly questioned if it is not too high. His estimate of the weight of the rupee itself is almost certainly so. He informs us that it was 9 deniers and 1 grain and the standard of the silver 11 deniers and 14 grains (*Travels*, Tr. Ball, I, 26).

Now 9 deniers 1 grain

$$\begin{aligned} &= 217 \text{ grains (French)} \\ &= \frac{217}{1} \times \frac{1837}{1000} = \frac{18167}{1000} \\ &= 181\cdot629 \text{ troy grains.} \end{aligned}$$

It may be safely said that this statement receives no corroboration either from the coins or the histories and it must follow that there is an error somewhere. I am myself inclined to think that the weight of the French ounce and grain has been *overrated* by Ball, and that Tavernier's ounce was, at the most, no heavier than the ounce troy of 480 grs.

To make matters worse, Tavernier himself in another place makes a statement which is not quite consistent with the above. “ All this silver is bought,” he writes, “ by the weight, called *tola* which weighs 9 deniers and 8 grains or 32 *vals*, and 81 *vals* make, as I have said [*Travels*, Vol. I, p. 25], one *once*.” (*Op. cit.*, I, 34.)



Now if 32 vāls make a tola, and 81 vāls make a French ounce of 482·3 grains troy,

$$1 \text{ tola} = \frac{32}{10} \times \frac{81}{81} \text{ grs. troy} = \frac{27168}{405} = 190\frac{21}{10} \\ = 190\cdot5 \text{ grains troy.}$$

This makes the tola three grains heavier still, but it is not at all improbable that 81 is here wrongly given for 3, if not 84. We have seen the English Presidents Kerridge and Breton repeatedly saying that there were 83 vāls in the *English* ounce of 480 grs. troy. Tavernier's statement that there were 81 only in the *French* ounce of 482·3 grs. troy, naturally raises doubts as to its accuracy. It should be borne in mind that his book was compiled in 1676 — about nine years after his last voyage—from notes and memoranda which were, according to Mons. Chappuzeau, who was employed to edit and give them some literary form, in a most confused, if not absolutely chaotic condition. It is admitted by his translator that "obscurity and contradiction are not absent from the text and the effects of the careless editing of the original are also much to be deplored." (Travels, Tr. Ball, I, Introd., pp. xxx, xxxii). It is therefore not unlikely that we have here a proof of his defective memory or of the disordered and imperfect state of the fragments of journals and diaries on which the 'Six Voyages' were founded. If then he is supposed to have written or meant to say that 83 vāls made a French ounce, the tola would be equal to 185·9 grains troy' ( $\frac{1776}{10} \times \frac{1}{8} \times \frac{3}{1}$ ) = (185 $\frac{7}{8}$  grs.).

However that might be, it is certain that Fryer who was in India between 1672–1681 A.C. makes the troy ounce equal to '2 Tolas and 19 Valls or 83 Valls', in his 'Table of Goldsmiths' and Jewellers' Weights in Surat.' (New Account, Ed. 1698, p. 206.) Fryer was in the service of the East India Company and his information was probably derived from his countrymen of the Sūrāt factory but the exact coincidence between the equation given by him and the considered statements made by President Kerridge in 1626 and by President Rastell in 1644 is worthy of serious attention. It shows that the Sūrāt tola was reckoned as equivalent to 185·06 grs. troy, by the Company's servants who might be reasonably supposed, from the nature of their business, to have felt the absolute necessity of fixing as accurately as possible its authentic weight in terms of the English scale.

These statements are somewhat bewildering in their variety and multiplicity, and it may not be unprofitable to concentrate in tabular form the results obtained from an examination of the different gauges. The reader will be thereby enabled to take them all in at a glance and to form a critical estimate of their real significance.

Abūl Faḡl	(a)	185.45	gra.	
"	(b)	183.53	"	
"	(c)	183.6	}	Making no allowance for abrasion.
"	(d)	183.3		
"	(e)	185.7		
"	(f)	185.6	"	
Firishṭa		184.57	"	Approximately.
Jahāngir		185.85	"	"
Khāfi Khān	}	185.00	"	or a little more.
Mirāt-i-Āhmadi				
Sir Thomas Roe (1616)		192.00	"	
Francis Fettiplace (1618)		155.00	"	(?)
Thomas Kerridge a (1619)		184.57	"	
Th. Kerridge b (1628)		185.06	"	
Sūrat Consultation (1633)		185.06	"	
President Breton (1644)		184.00	"	
Thevenot	(a)	1666	187.488	"
"	(b)	"	177.464	" (?)
"	(c)	"	170.11	" (?)
Tavernier	(a)	1667	187.6	"
"	(b)	"	190.5	" (?)
John Fryer (1672-81)			185.06	"

Such is the sum and substance of what it is possible to learn. What is the conclusion? In the first place, it must become increasingly clear to every one who studies with due care and attention the original authorities,—indigenous and European—that it is useless to make any attempt to determine *absolutely* the *precise* weight of the Mughal tola in terms of the English ponderary system. The tola was founded on the ratl, the ratl on rice grains. No two ratls or rice grains are, at any time or in any place, exactly alike in weight and they were besides subject to capricious alteration by governmental decree. Whatever the merits of the old Indian system of weights and measures, and however well adapted it might have been to its environment or the manner of thinking of the people, it was crude and empirical. The foundations of the tables were on units which had never been standardised and which were, perhaps, in their nature, incapable of being reduced to uniformity. There was nothing also even distantly resembling the marvellous precision of modern appliances, and it might be fairly doubted if there was anywhere in the country a balance sensitive enough to detect a difference of  $\frac{1}{10}$  or perhaps even  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a grain. Briefly, the conditions indispensable for the attainment of the minute accuracy and undeviating uniformity which appear to us so simple only because we have been so long accustomed to them did not exist. In the circumstances, the only result of demanding mathematical exactitude must be to involve ourselves in a maze of inconsistencies and contradictions. In short, the tola does not appear to have had anything like the absolutely definitive or uniform value of the English pound or foot or the French gramme or metre. Approximate accuracy is all that can be hoped for or predicable in regard to it, and all that can be said on the evi-

dence available is that it was somewhere between 185 and 186 grs. troy and perhaps the mean of these two figures, i.e. 185.5 grs. represents more nearly than any other its *average* weight.

## XIX. THE STANDARD OF FINE NESS OF MUGHAL COINS.

The money of the Mughal rulers was, in the days of the Empire's prosperity, held in the highest esteem for the purity of its contents or the fineness of its standard. Our stock of the mintages of Bābur and Humāyūn is not large and it has not been thought worth while to *assay* any of them. But the results of the quantitative analysis, by modern methods, of Akbar's muhrs and rupees are available and they are in striking accord with the statements of Abūl Fazl and other writers on the subject.

"By the attention of his Majesty," writes this historiographer, "gold and silver are refined to the highest degree of purity. The highest degree of purity is called in Persia *dahdahī*, but they do not know above ten degrees of fineness; whilst in India it is called *bārahbānī*, as they have *twelve* degrees. Formerly the old *hun* which is a gold coin current in the Deccan, was thought to be pure, and reckoned at ten degrees, but his Majesty has now fixed it at  $8\frac{1}{2}$ ; and the round small gold dīnār of 'Alāuddīn, which was considered to be twelve degrees, now turns out to be  $10\frac{1}{2}$ ." (*Aīn*, Text. I, 14, l. 2; Blochmann, Trans. I, 18)

Of the *old*, i.e. Mediæval South Indian hūns or pagodas there are numerous local types and varieties and very little is known of their intrinsic contents of pure metal, but if the touch or matt. of the coins of which Abūl Fazl speaks bore any resemblance to that of the pagodas current in the 18th and 19th centuries, they could not have been of a very high degree of purity. Readers of Prinsep will find in his 'Useful Tables' the results of the assays of thirty-five different varieties of the latter. The touch ranges from 95.1 to 55.2 and the average fineness of all the 35 works out at only 77.7. (*Op. cit.*, Ed. 1834, pp. 39-40). Our author reckons it at  $8\frac{1}{2}$  bān, which, assuming that 12 bān = 100 touch, implies that they were only 70.83 fine.

The "gold dīnār of 'Alāuddīn" may be confidently identified with the *ashrafi-i-'Alāī*, one hundred jars [در] filled with which are said by Abūl Fazl and Firishta to have been found in the hoards of the Rānī of Garha-Katanka after the conquest of that country (*Akbarnāma*, Trans., II. 332, Text, II. 215, l. 19; Briggs, Trans., II, 218). According to Abūl Fazl, it was far from being absolutely pure and his estimate is  $10\frac{1}{2}$  bān, i.e. about 87.5 degrees fine. Prinsep gives the result of his assay of some specimens sent to him from the General

Treasury as 94·2. (*Op. cit.*, p. 40c.) It should be remembered, however, in comparing the two statements, that 'Alāu-d-dīn's gold mintages are of by no means uniform excellence. Thomas remarks of a specimen registered by him (No. 131) that it is "a small thick coin of pale gold," and adds that "these pieces seem to have been *direct* remintages of southern gold hunns, without any attempt at *refining the metal up to the Dehli standard.*" (*Chronicles*, p. 169). The *Italics* are mine.

This 'Dehli standard' appears to have been fairly high even during the 'Pathān' period. We have seen from Prinsep's analysis that 'Alāu-d-dīn's gold tanka was 94·2 degrees fine, and an examination of a similar issue of his predecessor, Jalālu-d-dīn Firūz showed that the touch or pure contents of gold in 100 parts was 94·5 (*Op. cit.*, p. 40 c). This clearly points to the 'Pathān' moneyers having maintained a very high standard, and Abūl Faẓl does not deny them credit for it. What he emphatically asserts and takes pride in asserting is that Akbar's mintages surpassed them in this respect as well as in others. And the point to be here noted is that this is not an empty vaunt but a statement which can be proved to be true.

The results of the analyses of four different Akbari muhrs is given in the 'Useful Tables.' A 'jiljilalee' struck at Lāhor was found to be 100 degrees fine, another muhr coined at Āgra in 1560 proved to be of exactly the same standard (p. 39), and the average of several issues of the Dehli mint also yielded a touch of 100. A fourth type was, it is true, only 97·4 points fine; but it had been "injured by the solder of a ring." (*Ibid.*, p. 40c.)

But the numismatist may pertinently inquire to what extent the example set by Akbar in regard to the utmost possible refinement of the metal of his gold coins was followed by his successors. No light is thrown upon the matter by the annalists of the Mughal dynasty, but here again the labours of the gifted master of the Calcutta mint have placed us in possession of information which is more precise and convincing than anything which they could have imparted to us, or we should have been justified in expecting from them.

I beg permission to give in the subjoined Table the results of his "examination of a remittance of 725 old gold-mohurs sent from the General Treasury to be melted and recoinced," so far as they are relevant to the subject of our inquiry.

	Touch or pure gold in 100 parts	REMARKS.
Akber, average ..	100.0	A.D. 1556, Delhi.
„ single ..	97.4	Injured by solder of ring.
Jehangeer ..	100.0	At Boorhanpoor.
Shah Jehan (a) ..	97.4	Plain field.
(b) Chahar-yaroo ..	99.8	Square shield.
„ ..	91.7	Vitinted by solder ?
(c) Lozenge shield ..	99.5	Struck at Allahabad.
Patna ..	99.7	Supposed, from Symbol 39.
Aurangzeb, plain.	100.0	Several.
Sun 5 to 61 ..	98.0	Delhi A.H., 1076.
Agra ..	100.0	} 1100 [A.H.]; these vary only in the place of coinage.
Etawa ..	100.0	
Delhi ..	100.0	
Lahor ..	94.6	
Surat ..	100.0	No place of coinage; others Delhi.
Sun 29 ..	79.7	
Behadur Shah ..	97.4	Struck at <i>Khujisteh buniad</i> * * * in 1123
Jehandar Shah ..	100.0	Struck at Jonpur [?] 1124.
Furokshseer Sun 6	96.4	Delhi, A. H. 1125.
Lahore ..	96.4	Struck at Delhi.
Moham. Shah (a) ..	96.9	
(b) Suns 2 to 17 ..	97.4	Ditto average.
Agra ..	99.0	Ill-executed, Delhi, marked $\text{ش}$ .
Allahabad ..	99.2	
(c) Arcot ..	98.4	
Benares ..	100.0	
Islamabad ..	99.2	
Oojyn ..	98.5	
Etawa ..	99.8	
(c) Sun 12 ..	87.5	
Ahmed Shah ..	99.0	
Boorhanpoor ..	100.0	
Aulumgeer II, S. 1	99.2	Struck at Del (a).
Sun 3 ..	99.0	Inscription (b).
A.H. 1170-1173	98.4	Inscription (c).
Var. Suns ..	99.0	Struck at [Jaipur] Siwasee.
Shah Alum Del [hi]	97.4	Present Inscription.
Suns 3 to 15 } ..	100.0	With the Chhata [umbrella].
Suns 19 to 34 } ..		Same as old Bom[bay].
Boorhanpoor ..		Average of 16.
Furukhabad ..		Under the Nawab.
Lucknow ..		Same as old Bombay.
Surat Sun 19 ..	99.8	With dagger. <sup>1</sup>
Akber II ..	100.0	

<sup>1</sup> Useful Tables, Ed. 1834, pp. 40 c and d.

These figures bear eloquent witness to the solicitude displayed by the Mughal government during the entire period of its existence and even in the days of its decline in regard to the purity of the gold-contents of the muhr. Of the forty-four different types assayed, no less than 14 were found to be absolutely pure without a grain of alloy, and represented the issues of Akbar, Jahāngir, Aurangzeb Jahāndār, Muḥammad Shāh, Aḥmad Shāh, Shāh Ālam II and Akbar II. Thirteen had a touch of something over 99 and bore the names of Shāh Jahān, Muḥammad Shāh, Aḥmad Shāh, 'Ālamgir II and Shāh 'Ālam II. The Delhi muhrs of Aurangzeb, and some others displaying the style and titles of Muḥammad Shāh and 'Ālamgir II were just a point lower and were 98 degrees fine, although the last two types were probably not strictly Imperial. One muhr of Akbar yielded a somewhat lower result (97·4), but this was due to its having been injured by the solder of a loop or ring. Four other coins belonging to the reigns of Shāh Jahān, Bahādur Shāh Shāh Ālam I, Muḥammad Shāh and Shāh 'Ālam II were of the same standard. Both the specimens of Farrukhsiyar's mintages and two others of Muḥammad's were about 96 parts fine and a Lāhor ashrafi of Aurangzeb was two points lower still. A gold piece of Shāh Jahān, popularly called 'Chahār Yāree,' from the names of the four friends [Yārs *i.e.* the Khalīfahs] of the Arabian prophet inscribed in the margins, had an exceptionally high proportion of alloy and was only 22 carats fine, but it is candidly observed that it had been vitiated by solder. One other type of this low standard (91·7) is also registered, but it was really the Farrukhābād muhr struck by the East India Company, which was, with a view to assimilate it in this respect to the English sovereign, made only  $\frac{1}{14}$ ths fine. Several muhrs of Aurangzeb and Muḥammad Shāh were discovered to be of only 79·7 and 87·5 touch. They were in fact the only types in this list of 44 different varieties which were inferior in purity of intrinsic contents to the English sovereign. But they were all "badly executed," and there was every reason to believe them to be forgeries (*op. cit.*, p. 40c note).

Briefly, of the forty-four types assayed, two were not genuine and two others had suffered loss of pure metal at the hands of the solderer. Of the remaining forty, 13 gave results signifying absolute purity; 12 others were above 99 degrees fine; so that 25 in all out of 40, that is 62·5 per cent were *practically* pure. All the others, with one exception of avowedly foreign origin, which was only twenty-two carats fine, were found to be superior in this respect to the English sovereign. The point scarcely needs elaboration, but it may be observed that the *majority* of the genuine issues of Akbar, Jahāngir, Shāh Jahān, Aurangzeb, Jahāndār, Muḥammad Shāh, Aḥmad Shāh, 'Ālamgir II and the second Shāh 'Ālam appear to

have been absolutely or practically unalloyed. Of Bahādur Shāh Shāh 'Ālam I, only one coin or variety was assayed, the seven years of Farrukhsiyar's reign were represented by only two specimens and all these three were of comparatively low matt, but these and the other examples of deviation from absolute or practical purity must be regarded as more or less exceptional issues which are to be attributed to the imperfection of the technical processes of the day, the unskilfulness of the artisans employed in some of the provincial mints, the inefficient supervision or dishonesty of the mintmasters and lastly, perhaps, the pernicious custom of farming out the revenue of the mint which was introduced during the decline of the Empire.

So much as to the issues in the noblest of the metals. The standard or quality of the contents of the silver coins appears to have been almost equally high, though Abūl Fazl does not say that it was *absolutely* pure. He writes:—

“Silver may be alloyed with lead, tin and copper. In Irān and Turān, they also call the highest degree of fineness of silver *dahdahā*, in Hindustan the Sairafis use for it the term *bist biswah* [Twenty-twentieths]. According to the quality of the alloy, it descends in degree; but it is not made less than five, and no one would care for silver baser than ten degrees. \* \* \* In former times silver also was assayed by the *banwārī* system; now it is calculated as follows: if by refining 100 tolahs of shāhī silver, which is current in Irāq and Khurāsān, and of the lārī and misqālī, which are current in Turān, there are lost three tolas and one surkh, and of the same quantity of the European and Turkish Nārjīl and the Mahmūdī and Muzaffarī of Gujrāt and Mālwah, 13 tolahs and 6½ māshas are lost, they become of the imperial standard.” [عیار نقره شاهشاهی]. *Āin*, Tr. I, 22-3, Text, I, 18-19.

This is not very illuminating. It is clear that the Imperial standard was about three per cent higher than that of the Shāhī and about thirteen per cent higher than that of the Gujrāt Mahmūdī and some unidentifiable type of European and Turkish money. But we know nothing of the *touch* of either the Shāhī or the Mahmūdī and these comparative statements are therefore infructuous for our purpose—the *exact* determination of the fineness of the silver in the Imperial or Akbarī rupee.

In the circumstances, we naturally turn for light to the notices of the Mughal system of currency which are to be found in the works of the European travellers of the period. It is therefore a matter of regret that they do not come up to expectations in the matter of precision of statement or definite information. Several of them bear testimony in general terms to the extraordinary purity of the Mughal money—but the details we are in search of are not at all forthcoming.



"The coin there," writes Edward Terry, "is more pure than in any other part of the world, being (as they report) of pure silver without any alloy; so that in the Spanish money, the purest of all Europe, there is some loss." (A Voyage to East India, Ed. 1777, p. 113.) Herbert says of the 'Mammoody' and the 'Roopee' that they were 'good silver' (Travels, Ed. 1665, p. 46). Mundy also assures us that the current 'coyne is of good gold, silver, copper, etts." (Journal, Ed. Sir R. C. Temple, II, 130.) Thevenot too declares that "the silver money of the Great Mogul is finer than any other, for when ever a Stranger enters the Empire, he is made to change the Silver he hath, whether *Piastres* or *Abassis*, into the Money of the Country and at the same time they are melted down, and the Silver refined for the Coyning of *Roupies*." (Travels, Eng. Trans., Ed. 1687, Part III, p. 18.) Fryer again informs us in his description of Surat that "over-against the Custom-house is the stately Entrance into the Mint, which is a large Town of Offices within itself; hither repair all Shroffs or Bankers, for the Proof of Silver, which in this place is the most refined and purest from alloy, in the World; as is also their Gold." (New Account, Ed. 1698, p. 98) Thomas Bowrey also says in his account of the currency of Bengal that "a very good sort of fine silver money was coined in the mint at Dacca," and that the 'gold Moors' [Muhrs] also were of 'the highest Matt.' (Countries round the Bay of Bengal, 1669-1679, Ed. Sir R. C. Temple, p. 217).

But all this is too vague to be really helpful. I know of only two writers of the period who eschew generalities and profess to give the percentage of pure silver in the Mughal rupee in exact terms. The French jeweller, Tavernier asserts that the weight of the rupee was 9 *deniers* and 1 *grain*, and the standard of the silver 11 *deniers* and 14 *grains*. (Travels in India, Ed. Ball, I, 26. See also *ibid.*, I, p. 25, where an identical statement will be found = Six Voyages of J. B. Tavernier, Eng. Trans. by J. P[hillips], Ed. 1678, Part II, pp. 21, 22.) This means that the rupee of Tavernier's days contained about 96.5 parts of pure silver ( $11\frac{1}{2} = 11\frac{1}{2} = \frac{11}{1} \times \frac{1}{2} \times \frac{100}{1} = \frac{1100}{2} = 550$ ).

The second is Ovington. "The gold of Suratt," he writes, "is so very fine that 12 or 14 per cent may be often gained by bringing it to Europe. And the silver which is the same all over India, outdoes even the Mexico and Sevil Dollars and has less alloy than any other in the world. I never saw any oplit money there, and 'tis rare if either the gold or silver coin is falsified. The Gold Moor or gold roupie is valued generally at 14 of silver, and the silver roupie at two shillings three pence." (A Voyage to Suratt, Ed. 1689, p. 219.) This is in the usual style and deals only in generalities. More precise information, however, is found in the Table of Coins at the end of the work, in which he

states that "the Matt or Touch of the gold muhr of Hindustan was  $9\frac{1}{2}$  and that of the rupee  $9\frac{1}{4}$ ." This means that the pure contents of the muhr were 98.75 per cent and those of the rupee only 95 per cent.

Ovington was in India in 1689, about the same time as Tavernier and his estimate of the intrinsic value of the Mughal rupee is in fairly close agreement with that of the latter. But it should be remembered that neither Tavernier nor Ovington was an expert metallurgist and that the statements of both must have been based on popular belief or, at best, on what they had been told by the *Sarrāfs* or money-changers of the Bazārs. These men had their own method of ascertaining the proportion of alloy by blowing off the copper with lead (Thomas, *Chronicles*, 281), but the process was crude and its results only approximately correct even when very carefully conducted. They cannot in any case compare with those arrived at by modern analysis. Here again our grateful acknowledgments are due to Prinsep for concentrating in the following statement a good deal of most useful information which is nowhere else available.

"Cabinet specimens of the Coins [*i.e.* Rupees] of Jehangeer, Shah Jehan, and Aurungzebe have also an average weight of 175 grains *pure*, and the same prevails with little variation up to the time of Mahomed Shah in the coins of opposite extremities of the empire; or struck in the soubahs of Surat, Ahmedabad, Delhi and Bengal.

The following are examples of this agreement:—

Akbery, of Lahore	..	..	175.0 grains.
.. of Agra	..	..	174.0 do.
Jehangiry, Agra	..	..	174.6 do.
.. Allahabad	..	..	173.6 do.
.. Kandahar	..	..	173.9 do.
Shah Jehany, of Agra	..	..	175.0 do.
.. Ahmedabad	..	..	174.2 do.
.. Delhi	..	..	174.6 do.
.. Surat	..	..	175.0 do.
.. Lahore	..	..	174.0 do.

To which may be added from the Table of Coins assayed at the Mint, reckoning *pure contents* only:—

Delhi Sonats	..	..	175.0 grains.
.. Aulungeer	..	..	175.5 do.
Old Surat Rupee	..	..	174.0 do.
Moorshedabad	..	..	175.9 do.
Persian Rupee of 1745	..	..	174.5 do.
Dacca, old	..	..	173.3 do.
Mahamed Shahy	..	..	170.0 do.
Ahmed Shah	..	..	172.8 do.
Shah Aulum (1772)	..	..	175.8 do.

The above quotations are sufficient to show that the Mogul Emperors maintained a great uniformity in the currency of their vast empire." (*Useful Tables*, p. 18.)

These figures speak for themselves. It is unfortunate that the *absolute* weights of the coins themselves are not given, and that it is impossible in consequence to exactly determine the proportion of alloy. But it will be observed that the *pure contents* are only in two cases below 173 grs. Now supposing the authentic issue weight to have been even 180 grs. (it was, in all probability, a grain or two lower) the degree of purity works out *at more than* 97 p.c. in all but two instances. In some cases, it would seem to have been as high as 97·5. This is in fair accord with and justifies the encomiums of Terry and Fryer. It is in agreement with the detailed statements of Tavernier and Ovington also and should be regarded as sufficiently exact.

A few words of caution and qualification may, however, be not uncalled for. The Mughal money was hammered and was consequently easy to fabricate. Any skilful and unscrupulous goldsmith in the Empire had it in his power to imitate it and turn out from his shop specimens apparently as good as and difficult to distinguish from, the mintages of the Imperial *ateliers*.

As for the issues of the eighteenth century, the general deterioration of the administrative system of the Empire and the almost universal "lack of governance" in the provinces must be borne in mind. It would appear from some curious and interesting details which have been unearthed by Mr. Thurston from the Manuscript Records of the Calcutta Mint that the pernicious practice of debasing the currency was introduced in Banāras as early as the reign of Farrukhsiyar. The reader will perhaps have some reason to complain of the length of the extract, but the essay itself is neither very accessible nor generally known, and the facts revealed are not only authentic and indisputable, but provide a most instructive exemplification of the prevailing custom.

"A mint was first established at Benares," writes Mr. Thurston, "in the 15th year of the reign of Muhammad Shah (1734). The assay of the rupee was fixed at 22 chauwals, but by the connivance of the Superintendents of the mint, it was debased to 32 chauwals at different periods before the 30th and last year of the reign.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> A 'Chauwal' is a 'rice grain,' 8 chauwals make a rati and 8 ratīs a māsha. The theoretical or standard weight of the rupee of Muhammad Shāh's rupee is afterwards explicitly stated to have been 9 māshas 7 ratīs. As this is equivalent to 632 chauwals, it follows that originally the alloy was less than 4 per cent. This is a most interesting fact and we are perhaps entitled to conclude that the *original standard of fineness* of the rupee of Akbar and his three or four successors was the same, *viz.* 96 per cent of pure silver. It will be seen that this is in fair accord with the statement of Tavernier on the subject and that it receives confirmation from the results of Prinsep's assays.

It may be perhaps necessary to note that Akbar's rupee weighed

“ During the first three years of the reign of Ahmad Shah (1748–50), the mint was under the charge of Rājā Balwant Singh, who increased the duties on the coinage by attaching the fees of the officers of the mint, and establishing new ones to the same amount. In the first year, the assay was kept up to 22 chauwals, but in the second and third years, the Rājā farmed the mint to one Nandrām, who to increase his receipts debased the coin to 24 and 32 chauwals. \* \* \* The system of farming out the mints, first adopted by Ratan Chand, Diwān to Farrukhsiyar, at length introduced the custom of changing the value of the rupee every year. Those who had payments to make were consequently obliged to carry their old rupees to the mint to have them recoinced into sikkas, the name given to the rupees of the current year. Previous to the 10th year of the reign of Shāh ‘Alam (1769), the new coined sikka rupee, after circulating twelve months, fell three per cent, and at the expiration of two years, two per cent more, at which value it continued under the denomination *sanwāt*.’ \* \* \* From the beginning of the fourth to the end of the sixth and last year (1754) of Ahmad Shah, the mint was under the charge of Āghā Asad Beg, Kiladār or Governor of the Fort of Chunār. The assay of the rupees was from 26 to 32 chauwals. At the commencement of the reign of ‘Alamgir II (1754), the mint fell to the Vizier Shuja’ud-daulah. During the first and second years, the assay of the rupees was from 26 to 28 chauwals. In the third year, Shuja’ud-daulah made over the mint to his brother-in-law, Mirza ‘Alī Khān, who farmed it to Subhāw Chand. The assay of the rupee was from 24 to 32 chauwals. In the fourth year, the mint was farmed to the agent of an eminent Benares banker, and the rupees were debased to 64 chauwals, and for the first time, half a rati in weight. Rājā Balwant Singh refused to receive them into the treasury. In the fifth year, the rupees were raised to their proper weight of 9 māshās 7 ratīs (or 632 chauwals) but continued at the debased standard of 40 and 48 chauwals. In the sixth and last year of the reign, the rupees were debased to 100 chauwals assay (i.e.  $\frac{4}{16}$  silver and  $\frac{12}{16}$  alloy) and half a rati in weight. In the first year of the reign of Shāh ‘Alam, \* \* \* the rupee was restored to its former weight, (9 m. 7 r.) and to 26 chauwals assay. During the second to eighth years the assay remained at 40 chauwals. In the latter year (1767) Shujā’u-d-daulah \* \* \* resolved to reform the coin. \* \* \* A Delhi rupee of the 18th year of Muhammad Shāh, was sent

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11 māshas and 4 ratīs. The Banāras rupee is here said to have weighed only 9 māshas and 7 ratīs. This does not mean that it was 13 ratīs or 1 māsha and 5 ratīs lighter, but that the Banāras māsha was heavier. Such local variations were only too common. Prinsep (*Loc. cit.* 17 note) gives the average weight of the Banāras māsha as 17.7 grains.  $9\frac{7}{16} \times 17\frac{7}{16} = 174\frac{1}{16}$  grs.

as a sample for the new coinage. This rupee was 22 chauwals fine, but being worn had lost 2 chauwals in weight. The new rupees were, in consequence, 2 chauwals deficient, and from that time [to the 15th year], the Benares rupees continued at 9 m. 6 r. 6 ch., being 2 chauwals less than the original weight of 9 m. 7 r. \* \* \* A considerable portion of the rupees issued in the 16th year contained only  $5\frac{1}{2}$  oz. of silver, to  $10\frac{1}{2}$  of copper. In the 17th year of the reign of Shāh 'Ālam (1776), the mint was transferred by the Company to Chait Singh, who engaged to coin rupees of 9 m. 6 r. 6 ch. weight and 18 chauwals fine, and to continue the die of the 17th san, in order to put an end to the confusion in the currency occasioned by the constant alteration of the value of the coin." (Note on the History of the East India Company's Coinage from 1753-1835 in J.A.S.B., 1893, pp. 54-56).

These statistics may appear tiresome but they give us useful information as to the real state of affairs even in an important commercial centre like Banāras and warn us that the lowering of the standard had already begun in the time of Muḥammad Shāh, if not even earlier, in that of Farrukhsiyar.

Lastly, it should not be forgotten that the Mughal system of government was, even at its best, an oriental despotism which had the defects of its qualities. In such a polity, everything depends, in spite of rules, regulations, Farmāns and Dastūru-l 'Amals of the most stringent and benevolent nature, on the character of the sovereign himself and of the persons chosen by him to exercise authority on his behalf in a vast empire. Akbar had introduced (speaking comparatively), a highly centralised system of administration, which probably retained its vigour up to the last years of Aurangzeb, but even in the best of times, the control of the central authority was exercised intermittently, and in the distant provinces, the viceroys and other officials were permitted to do things very much in their own way. There was nothing like a regular system of supervision and punishment for misdemeanour was rare. The mints were, we may be sure, occasionally placed under the charge of unscrupulous Dāroghas, and it is not unlikely that the coinage *was*, in places and at times, slightly lowered in weight or standard.

## XX. RUPEE-VALUE OF THE ASH- RAFĪ OR MUHR.

The coin-denomination Ashrafi is of incessant occurrence in the Mughal histories. The learned compilers of 'Hobson Jobson' declare that the word اشرف means 'Noble' in Arabic and that "the term is applied to various gold coins (in analogy with the old English 'Noble'), but especially to the Dinar of Egypt and to the Gold Mohur of India" (*op. cit.*, Ed. Crooke, p. 38). Steingass (*Arabic-English Dictionary s.v.*) takes the same view, but Mr. R. S. Poole is of opinion that the "name came from \* \* \* the Memlūk El-Ashraf Barsabay [r. 1422-1438 A.C.] or El-Ashraf Kait-Bey [r. 1468-1496 A.C.] under whom it became famous in commerce not long after its introduction into the Egyptian currency." (*Coins of the Shāhs of Persia*, Introd. lxii.) Mr. Stanley Lane Poole has declared himself in favour of the same derivation. (*Weights and Denominations of Turkish Coins*, Num. Chron. 1882, p. 168.)

Whatever the true etymology may be, it is certain that the designation came, in course of time, to be loosely applied to gold coins of all sorts of weights and values. Dozy says it is used in the *Alf Laila wa Laila* ('The Thousand Nights and a Night') for the gold dinār of the value of about 11s. 6d. (*Glossaire*, pp. 353-4) and the lexicographer Richardson is responsible for the statement that it was the name of "an old Spanish coin, worth about seven shillings or seven reals." (*Persian Arabic-English Dictionary, s.v.*)

The word occurs in the 'Memoirs of Bābur' and seems to be used for the gold tankas weighing about 168 grs. of the 'Pathān' Sultāns of Dehli.

"On Wednesday (Safar 6th)," he writes in his diary of the year of his final and absolutely decisive invasion of India (932 A.H.) \* \* \* "the younger brethren of Nūr Beg—he himself remaining in Hindustān—brought gold *Ashrafīs* and *tankas* to the value of 20000 Shāhrukhīs, sent from the Lāhor revenues by Khwāja Husain." (Mrs. Beveridge's Trans. 446; Erskine, 290).

Bābur never appears to have struck any gold money in his own name. He was perhaps too poor to afford the luxury. The total annual revenue of the kingdom of Kābul was only 8 laks of *Shāhrukhīs* or 3,20,000 rupees, and when he became master of the treasures of the Lodīs, he squandered them so quickly and thoroughly that he earned the name of 'Qalandar' (*Firishta*, Briggs' Trans. Calcutta Repr. II. 49) and found himself in such financial straits (*Memoirs*, Trans. Beveridge, 617 =

Erskine, 387) that he was obliged to raise the taxes 30 p.c. all round.

Gold coins of his son and successor, however, are known and exemplified by B.M.C. 8-10a, I.M.C. 13-14.

Humāyūn's sister Gulbadan speaks of trays full of Ashrafiis and Shāhrukhīs having been presented or distributed among the ladies of the Court and the Amīrs on festival occasions (*Humāyūn Nāma*, Ed. A. S. Beveridge, 95, 124, 125). Elsewhere she tells us that Māldeo, the Rājput prince of Jodhpūr sent to Humāyūn on his arrival at Phalūdī in the course of his wanderings, "a present of armour and a camel's load of *Ashrafiis*," (*Ibid.*, 153-4) and that Tardī Beg who "had a great deal of money" lent the distressed Emperor 80000 *ashrafiis* at the rate of two in ten [*i.e.* on interest at 20 per cent] (p. 157). In all these cases, the reference is probably to the small gold coins weighing about 18 grs. and 9 grains, of which a few are still preserved in our public and private collections. But the same authoress calls the enormous gold piece weighing "three Imperial [Bādshāhī, *i.e.* Akbarī ?] *Sīr*, or fifteen *Sīr* of Hind" which her father Bābur sent as a present to an old servant ('Asas) also an Ashrafi. (*Ibid.*, p. 96.)

The word occurs occasionally in Abūl Fazl's *Ā'in* (Blochmann, Tr. I. 224, 289), the *Ṭabaqāt-i-Akbarī* (Text, 342, Elliot and Dowson v. 411), and Badāoni's *Muntakhab* (Text, II. 236, 384. Lowe's Tr. II. 243, 397) and may, in all these instances, be confidently said to be employed for the Akbarī gold muhr.

The author of the *Ghiyāṭ-i-Lughāt*—a standard Persian Dictionary compiled in Mustafābād-Rāmpūr—says that the Ashrafi was a gold coin weighing ten māshas which was first struck in the reign of a Pādishāh called *Ashraf*. This is not quite correct, but it is clear that the writer was referring to the Mamlūk Sultān Ashraf Barsabay, and that he thought the weight of the Egyptian coin was about the same as that of the Mughal gold muhr.

The first question that arises in connection with this exceedingly well-known type of money, is what was its rupee-value at different periods and what light do our authorities throw on the vexed and difficult question of the ratio of gold to silver. It must be at once admitted that in this respect, they are exceedingly disappointing. Their authors were, it should be remembered, neither economists nor statisticians nor currency reformers anxious to prove or disprove a theory. They had never heard of the Double or Bimetallic Standard and the difficulty or rather the impossibility of preventing sudden and violent fluctuations in the comparative values of the precious metals had never vexed their souls. Their ideas or methods of historical writing were very different from ours and they had no conception of the value and importance of either economic or social history. It is therefore futile to expect them to replace

the darkness by a blaze of knowledge, but it may be useful to bring under one view the few scattered notices on the subject which have, in the course of these studies, arrested my attention.

Here also the first glimmer of light comes to us from Abūl Fazl who has left behind in the tenth chapter of the First Book of the *Āin* an elaborate description of the mintages of his own day and recorded not only the weights of the issues in both metals, but also their values in exchange. "These copious and somewhat tedious statistics" have been meticulously examined by Edward Thomas. It is hardly necessary to reproduce the entire passage in which "the leading results" of his scrutiny are concentrated by that expert. It will suffice to quote in illustration of his method, the first item and the last.

"No. 1. The massive piece, the Sihausah, of the above table, in value 100 L'al Jalālīs, gives a return of weight in gold of *tolahs* 101, *māshas* 9, *ratīs* 7 = 1000 silver rupees : 18328 : : 172500 ( $1725 \times 100 \times 10$ ) : 1 : 9.4118.

\*\*\* No. 10, 'Adl Guṭkah or Round Muhr, also called Mihrābī. Weight in gold, 11 *māshas* = 9 rupees : 165 : :  $172.5 \times 9$  (1552.5) : 1 : : 9.40909." (Chronicles, p. 424.)

It will be seen that these estimates are based on certain assumptions of which the validity is not beyond question. In the first place, it is postulated that the tola of Akbar was identical in weight with the modern or British Indian tola of 180 grains troy—which was first introduced only in 1834 A.C. It follows by implication that its subdivisions, the *māsha* and the *ratī* were respectively equivalent to just 15 grs. and 1.875 grs. It is common knowledge that the existing evidence is adverse to any such suppositions, and Col. Nassau W. Lees was not altogether unjustified in openly proclaiming his distrust of "calculations based upon a measure not accurately ascertained." (Proc. Asiatic Society of Bengal, 1865, p. 210.)

In the second place, Thomas would appear to have erred in supposing that the theoretical or issue weight of the Akbari rupee was only 172.5 grs., inasmuch as coins which touch 177 and even 178 grs. are very common.

In these circumstances, it appears necessary to set aside Thomas's calculations and work out the ratio *de novo* from Abūl Fazl's data, employing a method of which the results would be altogether independent of and could not possibly be affected by the uncertain value of the tola and the *māsha* in terms of the English scale of weights.

Now if 101 *tolas*, 9 *māshas* and 7 *ratīs* of gold were = 1000 rupees of  $11\frac{1}{2}$  *māshas* each, it is clear that  $101\frac{7}{8} \times 12$  *māshas* of gold were = 11500 *māshas* of silver,

or  $9\frac{7}{8}$  *māshas* of gold were = 11500 *māshas* of silver

$$\frac{9}{8} \times \frac{11500}{1} = \frac{10350}{1} = 9.4117.$$



Again, if the 'Adlgutka or round muhr of 11 māshas was valued at 9 rupees of  $11\frac{1}{2}$  māshas each,

$$\begin{aligned} 11 \text{ māshas of gold} &= 103\frac{1}{2} \text{ māshas of silver} \\ \therefore 1 \text{ māsha of gold} &= \frac{103\frac{1}{2}}{11} \times \frac{1}{11} = \frac{9\frac{9}{22}}{1} = 9\frac{9}{22} \\ &= 9\cdot4090 \text{ māshas of silver.} \end{aligned}$$

It would serve no useful purpose to work out in detail the other items of Thomas's schedule, as the results arrived at by this method are in agreement with his up to three places of decimals, and therefore identical to all intents and purposes. It may however, in view of some observations hazarded by Mr. Lane Poole, be permissible to invite attention to the weight and value of the *Ilāhi* muhr—which stands 9th on the list given in the Chronicles. Abūl Fazl declares that it weighed 12 māshas,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  rattis, and was valued at 10 rupees. Mr Lane Poole, referring to the singular square issues of Fathpūr and Urdū Zafar Qarīn in the British Museum (Cat. Nos. 66-70; 73-78) which are of almost exactly this weight (186-188 grs.) has advanced the opinion that the difference of value [as compared with that of the muhr of 11 māshas which was 9 rupees] seems to have depended upon the *purity*, and not upon the *weight*, and this cannot be tested without injuring the coins."

I beg leave to point out that a simple calculation is all that is necessary to secure the rejection of this theory and to show that the difference depended not upon the purity but upon the weight alone and that the standard of all the gold coins was practically identical. For, if 9 rupees could purchase 11 māshas of gold of a certain standard, 10 rupees would buy  $\frac{11 \times 10}{9} = 12\frac{2}{9}$  māshas and  $1\frac{2}{9}$  rattis of gold of the same touch or matt. Abūl Fazl's figure is 12 māshas  $1\frac{1}{2}$  rattis which is almost the same, as the difference is only  $\frac{1}{36}$  of a rati or about .03 of a troy grain.

Again if 12 māshas  $1\frac{1}{2}$  rattis of gold were equal in purchasing power to 10 rupees of  $11\frac{1}{2}$  māshas each, it is clear that  $\frac{12 \times 10}{11\frac{1}{2}} = 10\frac{8}{11}$  māshas of gold = 115 māshas of silver

$$\therefore 1 \text{ māsha of gold} = \frac{115}{11\frac{1}{2}} \times \frac{1}{11} = \frac{9\frac{11}{22}}{1} = 9\cdot4117 \text{ māshas of silver.}$$

Now this is *exactly* the result that we obtained from the data for the heavier or larger Sihansah and it differs from the ratio deduced from the weight of the 'Adlgutka or round muhr, viz. 9·4095, by only  $\frac{1}{100000}$  or .0022. This difference is, considering the crudeness and imperfection of the technical processes of the day, so small as to be negligible and it may be safely said that the standard of *all* the gold coins was the same, that the difference in value was due to weight only and that the ratio of the value of gold to that of silver was about 9·4 : 1 at the date of the composition and completion of the *Āīn*, i.e. in the beginning of the fifth and last decade of Akbar's reign.

But gold would appear to have appreciated in comparison

with silver soon afterwards. We have seen already that Captain William Hawkins valued the 'Seraffin Ecberi' at 'Ten rupias a piece.' (Voyages, Ed. Markham, 421). Hawkins was at Agra from about 1608 to 1611. And there is a statement in the Emperor Jahāngir's Chronicle of the 10th year of his own reign, 1615—which points, though somewhat doubtfully, to a ratio of 12 : 1. He says that the *Nūr Jahānī* muhr which he presented to the Persian ambassador on 8th Shahrivar X.R.Y. was worth 6,400 Rupees (*Tūzuk*, Tr. I. 298) and he informs us again while recording the gift of a muhr of the same name to the ambassador from Bijāpūr on the 19th of the very next month, that it weighed 500 tulchas, i.e. tolas. This would mean that  $500 \times 12 = 6,000$  māshas of gold were  $= (6400 \times 11\frac{1}{2}) = 73,600$  māshas of silver or one māsha of gold was  $= 12\frac{1}{11}$  or 12.266 māshas of silver; one tola of gold would be worth 12 Rs. 12 as., and the ordinary muhr of 11 māshas about 11 Rs 12 as. This is a very high figure and there is a temptation to suspect that the number of rupees is wrongly given. It seems *prima facie* unlikely that the ratio should have gone up at a bound from 9.4 to 12.2 in twenty years. These doubts, are to a certain extent, reinforced by the fact that the Emperor himself in another passage speaks of the ordinary Pādshāhī muhr as if it was worth only 10 rupees. In his account of the monetary system of Kishtwār he writes :—

“ A coin of the name of *Sanhasī* is a relic of the old rulers of Kashmīr, one and a half of which equal a rupee. In their business transactions, they reckon fifteen *Sanhasī* or ten rupees, as one *Pādshāhī* muhr ” (*Tūzuk*, Tr. II. 139) (XV R.Y.).

I must leave the reconciliation of these discrepant statements to the ingenuity of others, though of course there is nothing inherently or even flagrantly improbable in the supposition that the year in which the Emperor wrote the first two paragraphs—the tenth of his reign—was marked by one of those sudden inflations in the comparative or silver value of gold which India and even other countries have so frequently witnessed. It is also not at all impossible that in a remote and out-of-the-way mountainous district like Kishtwār, gold was under-valued in comparison with silver.

However that may be and whatever the true explanation of these figures, there can be no doubt that the ratio had risen considerably in favour of gold and was about 14 : 1 in the reign of Shāh Jahān. The author of the *Bādishāhnāma* deserves our acknowledgments for having gone out of his way to make three most interesting and explicit statements on this subject.

In his account of the construction of the Peacock Throne. he says that it was estimated to cost a crore of rupees, and that the Emperor himself picked out fifty thousand *misqāls* weight of precious stones of the value of 86 laks of rupees, with a view to their being set or inlaid in the throne, for the con-

struction of which one lak tolas or two hundred and fifty thousand misqāls of pure gold costing 14 laks of rupees were set aside. (*Op cit.*, I. ii. 79. l. 10) Now it is obvious that if a tola of pure gold was worth 14 Rs., the ordinary Mughal muhr of eleven māshas must have had the corresponding value of 12 Rs. 13 as. and 4 pies ( $\frac{1}{4} \times \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{8} = 12\frac{1}{2}$  Rs.).

The fact is recorded in the chronicle of the 8th year of the reign (1044 A.H.). Seven years later, (XV R., 1051 A.H.), we find the same contemporary authority stating, in his inventory of the estate of Shāh Jahān's father-in-law, Āsaf Khān, that he left "three laks of Ashrafis equivalent to 42 laks of rupees"

(اشرافي سه لک که چهل و دو لک روپیه باشد) (*Ibid.*, II. 259, l. 10.)

If these *Ashrafis* were the ordinary Mughal muhrs, of eleven māshas, a strict interpretation of the words would lead to the supposition that a further rise had taken place in the price of gold.<sup>1</sup>

Lastly, there is in the annals of the 20th year (1056 A.H.) a monetary statement which yields a still higher value for the Ashrafi or muhr. "The head of 'Āqil Khān was," we read, "exalted by the gift of a horse and he was commanded to carry 15 laks of rupees and 70 thousand Ashrafis, that is, 25 laks in the aggregate, to Shāh Beg Khān, the commandant of the fort of Ghorī." (*Ib.*, II. 578, l. 16)

Now if this is to be understood *literally*, it must imply that the Ashrafi or muhr was now worth not 14 Rs. but something more, 14 Rs. 4 as. and 6 $\frac{1}{2}$  pies ( $\frac{1}{7000000} = \frac{1}{70} = 14\frac{1}{2}$  Rs.).

But the author is probably speaking only in *round numbers*.

It remains now to cite two equations from the history of Khāfi Khān which point to a further advance in the rupee value of the muhr. "At the commencement or first day of the Jashn or festival of the 9th year [of Aurangzeb's reign] [1076 A.H.], the annual pension of the Nawāb Qudsiya Begam Šāhiba which had been 12 laks was increased by 3 laks of rupees and a lak of rupees and ten thousand Ashrafis, the value of each of which *was at the time 17 rupees*, were bestowed upon her in cash."

یک لک روپیه و ده هزار اشرافي که در آن وقت هفتاد روپیه اشرافي بود

(Bibl. Ind. Text, II. 189, l. 8.)

\* نقد مرحمت فرمودند

But only a few lines further, and on the very next page, the Ashrafi is reckoned at only 16 rupees. "On the 18th of Zi-l-Qa'da, 1076 [A.H.], Sivaḡi and his son of nine years old had

<sup>1</sup> Elsewhere also, in his account of the great festival held in honour of the Princess Jahānāra's recovery in 1054 A.H. (1645 A.C.), he casually states that 2,000 gold muhrs were equivalent to 28,000 rupees. (Bib. Ind. Text, II. 396.)

the honour of being introduced to the Emperor. He made an offer of 1500 [500 in Dowson is a misprint or clerical error] ashrafs and 6000 rupees, altogether 30000 rupees." (Elliot and Dowson, VII).

هزار و پانصد اشرفی و شش هزار روپیہ کہ مراد از سی هزار روپیہ آنزمان

باشد پذیر و نثار گذراند \*

Text, II. 190, l. 6.

It is clear that the 1,500 Ashrafs are here valued at 24,000 rupees which implies that one *Ashrafi* was worth only 16 rupees. *Khāfi Khān* is a careless and slovenly writer who has to be read with caution and his details are often wanting in precision. The discrepancy between the two statements is glaring, but that is no reason for discrediting them altogether and the right way of understanding them is to suppose, in a general way, that the muhr had gone up still higher and was worth about 16 rupees during the first decade of Aurangzeb's reign.

This is what can be gathered from the indigenous authorities. To complete the evidence, it is necessary to examine the statements of contemporary European travellers. We have seen that Hawkins valued the Serafin Eberi, i.e. the ordinary Akbari muhr of eleven māshas at ten rupees in 1608-11 A.C. In a marginal note appended to the passage, the reader is further informed that "a tole is a rupia challany of silver, and ten of these toles are of the value of one of gold." (Voyages, Ed. Markham, 1878, p. 421.) The wording of the paragraph is loose and it will hardly do to construe either of these statements strictly or to postulate their absolute accuracy, but they indicate that the ratio was *approximately*, 10 : 1 when he wrote, i.e. about 1610 A.C.<sup>1</sup>

About eighteen years later, Sir Thomas Herbert defines what he calls the *Dina* [*recte* *Dinār*, i.e. gold muhr] as "a piece of gold worth thirty shillings." As he takes the rupee at two shillings and three pence, the *dinār* would be worth 13½ rupees. [Travels, Ed. 1665, p. 46.] Then in 1633 A.C., Thomas Mundy says that the "Mohores or Gunnees" [*recte* *Sunnea* ?] were "each worth about 5 Nobles [6s. 3d.] English, sometimes more or less."<sup>2</sup> (Travels, Ed. Sir R. C. Temple, II. 310.) As he

<sup>1</sup> Tom Coryat says in a letter addressed to his mother that when he left Ajmer to begin his pilgrimage back again into Persia, Sir Thomas Roe gave him "a piece of gold of this Kings coyne worth foure and twentie shillings." (Purchas His Pilgrimes, Ed. Mac Lohose, IV. 487.) As Coryat repeatedly reckons the rupee as equivalent to two 'shillings' (*ibid.*, IV. 486, 487), this would mean that the muhr was valued at twelve rupees in 1616 A.C., but perhaps 'the piece of gold of this King's Coyne' was not the ordinary muhr, but one of the heavy mintages turning the scale at about 200 grs.

<sup>2</sup> The Dutchman De Laet whose book '*De Imperio Magni Mogolis*' was published in 1631 or 1632 A.C. says the rupee varied from 2s to 2s. 9d.

also takes the rupee at 2s. 3d., this gives to the muhr a value of about 14 rupees. Then about 1641 A.C., Sebastien Manrique informs us that "three gold rupees" were worth "thirty-nine silver rupees." (Travels, Tr. [Sir] E. D. MacLagan, in Journal, Panjab Historical Society, Vol. I, 1911, p. 97.)<sup>1</sup>

The jeweller Tavernier who visited India five times between 1641 and 1667, says that the golden rupees were not current among the merchants, that they were scarcely ever to be met with save in the houses of the great nobles and that each was not worth more, than 14 silver rupees. (Travels, Ed. Ball, I, 18; see also *ibid.*, 414 note.)

His compatriot and contemporary, Thevenot, who landed at Surat on the 11th of January, 1666 A.C. (Travels, Eng. Trans. of 1687, Part III, p. 1) informs us that the "Roupeis of Gold" were "worth about one and twenty French Livres," but that "they pass not commonly in trade and are only coined, for the most part, to be made presents of." (*Ibid.*, p. 18.)

Now as the French Livre was worth about 1s. 6d. the Gold Roupie would be equivalent to 31s. 6d. or 14 silver rupees at 2s. 3d. to the latter. (See Ball's Trans. of Tavernier's Travels, I. 411-2.)

Towards the end of the 17th Century, the Italian traveller, Gemelli Careri who saw Aurangzeb in his camp at Galgala or Qutbābād in 1695, assigns to the muhr a value of 13½ Rupees. "The mony coin'd in Indostan," he writes, "is Roupies, half Roupies, and quarter Roupies of Silver; as also Roupies of Gold, worth 13 Silver Roupies and a quarter, or six pieces of Eight, Spanish mony half Roupies and quarters \* \* \* There are also Copper Pieces, called Pesies, 54 whereof make a Roupie of Silver." *Voyage Round the World* in Churchill's Collection of Voyages and Travels, IV, 255.

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but he makes the *dina* worth 30 rupees! Sir Thomas Herbert has *borrowed very freely* from him, but he has had the good sense to correct the blunder and substitute 'shillings' for 'rupees.' See Vincent Smith in J.R.A.S., 1915, p. 238.

<sup>1</sup> J. A. de Mandelslo who was in India in 1638, informs us that "they have also a certain coin of Gold which they call Xerafins [recte, *Ashrafi*] and it is worth about thirteen Ropias and a half." (Eng. Trans. of John Davies, 1689, p. 69.) But Mandelslo's book is a compilation from many heterogeneous sources and of small value.

It would appear from the Correspondence of the English East India Company edited by Mr. Foster, that about 1628-1630, there was a sudden fall in the value of gold at Sūrat and Ahmadābād and the muhr fetched only 13 Rs. or was worth even 12½ rupees, but this appears to have been only a temporary depreciation and the price rose to 14 rupees soon afterwards. (English Factories in India, 1624-1629, pp. 235, 270, 295, and 1630-1633, pp. 32 and 123.)

## XXI. CHRONOLOGY OF THE REIGNS OF THE MUGHAL EMPERORS.

The historical literature relating to the domination of the house of Tīmūr in Hindustān is, as may be perceived from a glance through the last four volumes of Elliot and Dowson's invaluable work, much more extensive and trustworthy than the material available for any other period of Indian history. The chronology of their reigns, however, can be scarcely said to have been established on an absolutely firm or satisfactory basis. Conflicting statements as to the precise time of the occurrence of minor or unimportant events occasionally arrest the attention of even ordinary readers in the publications which record, from day to day or week to week, the annals of our own times. They are inevitable, and there is no cause for astonishment in that connection. It is a striking and regrettable feature of the Mughal chronicles that they often differ, really or apparently, from each other, not only in matters of detail, but in regard to the exact dates of such epochal events as the accession of a sovereign or his deposition and death.

For these unfortunate and perplexing discrepancies there are several reasons. They are sometimes due to the ignorance of the writers, or their carelessness and constitutional indifference to chronological exactitude. In other cases, they are, traceable to the lapses of copyists or the defects inherent in the Arabian script. Certain numbers are peculiarly liable to confusion in Persian writing. Thus *هشتم* is often mistaken for *بیستم* or *vice versa*; and *پانزدهم* and *یازدهم* and *سیوم* and *سیم* and *می* and *سد*, *دو* and *ده*, *هشتم* and *عشتم*, *ششم* are often misread and miswritten, the one for the other. And this is a fruitful source of many puzzling and apparently irreconcilable variations.

But there is a factor of confusion which is incomparably more pervading and also more difficult to eliminate. It has its origin in the Islamic method of computing time. We all know that the Muḥammadan year and month are lunar, but very few persons seem to be aware that at least three different varieties of the lunar month, three distinct modes of reckoning which do not always agree as to the number of the day, i.e. the age of the moon, have been and are even now current in the Muḥammadan world. *Prima facie*, it is not at all easy to say which of the three systems has been followed in a particular case by any historical writer.

There is, first of all the Hilālī or Ruiyyat method in which the first day of the month is reckoned from the sunset immediately succeeding the heliacal rising of the [new] moon (*Hilāl*). The great Arab mathematician, Albirūnī, informs us that the Era of the Hijrat is "based upon lunar years in which the commencements of the months are determined by the appearance of the new moon, not by calculation. It is used by the whole Muhammadan world." (*Āthāru-l-Bāqiya*, or 'Chronology of Ancient Nations,' Tr. Sachau, p. 34). Elsewhere, he says that "the Arabs fixed the beginning of the month by the appearance of the new moon, and the same has been established as a law in Islām." *Ibid.*, p. 76. (The Italics are mine.)

Abūl Fazl has given a lucid account of the matter in the *Āin* which may be commended to the attention of all students of Musalmān history and Numismatics. He writes:—

"The month according to this (*scil.* Hijrī) system is reckoned from the sight [ دیدن هلال ] of one new moon, after the sun has completely set till the next is visible [ رویت دیگر ]. It is never more than 30 nor less than 29 days. It sometimes occurs that four successive months are of 30 days, and three of 29.

Chronologers putting aside calculations based on the moon's appearance [ رویت ] reckon lunar months in two ways, viz. *Natural* [ حقیقی ] which is the interval of the moon's departure from a determinate position, with the sun in conjunction or opposition or the like to its return thereto; secondly, *Artificial* [ اصطناعی ]; since motions of the moon are inconstant, and their methodisation as well as an exact discrimination of its phases difficult, its mean rate of motion [ حرکت وسطی ] is taken and thus the task is facilitated. In the recent (Gurgānī) tables [ زیج جدید ], this is 29 days, 12 hours and 44 minutes. The rule is this, that when the fraction is in excess of half, it is reckoned as one day. Thus when the excess is over a half, they take the month of Muḥarram as 30 days, and the second month 29, and so on alternately to the last. In common years, therefore Dhi'l Hijjah is 29 days. The mean lunar year consists of 354 d. 8 h. 48 m., which is less than a solar artificial year [ سال شمسی اصطناعی ] by 10 d. 21 h 12 m. Mirzā Ulugh Beg has based his New Canon [ زیج جدید ] on this [*scil.* Hijrī] era of which 1,002 years have elapsed to the present time." (Tr. Jarrett, II, 27-8; Text, I, 276.)

It will be seen that this author speaks comprehensively of all the three methods, viz. (1) according to the length of the

interval between the visibility, [*Rūṣṣyat*], i.e. the heliacal rising, of one new moon and another; (2) the length of the natural lunar month [*māh-i-Haqiqī*] or the True Lunation; and (3) the length of the artificial Lunar Month [*Māh-i-Istilāhī*] or the Mean Lunation.

In recording the day of the great Emperor's *julūs* in the *Akbarnāma*, he takes care to state that it was "near noon on Friday, which was according to *Visibility* the 2nd of Rab'ī II, 963 of the lunar year [رویت] but by calculation [*recte*, 'mean rate of motion,' بامر اوسط], the 3rd (*Akbarnāma*, Text, II, 3, l. 21; Beveridge's Trans. II, 5) <sup>1</sup> And he again notes the difference of a day between the two reckonings when registering the birth of Sulṭān Dāniāl which is said to have taken place on "Wednesday, 2nd Jumād I according to *Visibility* [رویت], but the night of the 3rd according to *mean motion* or calculation [امر اوسط]. *Ibid*, Text, II, 373; Tr. II, 542.

Other authors also occasionally warn their readers of the difference and the compiler of the *Bādishāhnāma* notes that Akbar ascended the throne near noon on Friday, the 2nd of Rab'ī II, 963 Hijrī, but that the day was the 3rd according to custom or convention. [سیوم هنگامی]. (Text, I, Pt. i, p. 66, l. 12.) Khafī Khān expressly states that on account of the invisibility. [عدم رویت] of the moon, there was a difference of opinion [اختلاف] as to the precise day of Bahādur Shāh, Shāh 'Ālam's accession, some regarding it as the last day [ملح] of Muharram and others as the first day [عمره] of Šafar. (Text, II, 574, l. 13; E.D. VII, p. 392, where the real meaning has not been grasped by the translator).<sup>2</sup>

Orthodox Muslims firmly believe that the first of these

<sup>1</sup> The expression بامر اوسط which occurs again (*Akbarnāma*, Text, II, 373) and which Mr. Beveridge says he does "not fully understand" (Tr. II, 542 note) is identical with what Abūl Fazl speaks of in the *Āin*, as حرکت وسطی, 'Mean rate of Motion.' (*Op. cit.*, Text, I, 276. Jarrett, Trans. II, 17, 28.)

<sup>2</sup> The author of the *Amal-i-Salāh* says that the date of Shāh Jahān's birth was the last day [ملح] of Rab'ī I, 1000 A.H. according to *Rūṣṣyat* [از روی رویت], but the 1st of Rab'ī II according to the canons of the astronomers [دستور العمل اهل تفحیم]. *Op. cit.*, 7, l. 8.

Similarly, the author of the *Khazāna-i-Āmīra* declares that the day on which Nizāmu-d-daula (Nāṣir Jang) was killed in a night attack by the Nawābs of the Karnātak [Kādāpa, Karnūl, etc.] was 17th Muharram 1164 A.H. according to astronomical reckoning, but 16th according to *Rūṣṣyat* (p. 55, l. 8).



three systems, the *Hilālī* or *Rūiyyat*, is the only true and legal [ شرعي ] one, that it only is in accordance with the commands of the Prophet and that all religious festivals and fasts should be celebrated in conformity with it and no other

Unfortunately, the motions of the moon are very irregular and she is frequently invisible on account of clouds and other atmospheric changes. Her heliacal rising is also liable to take place a day earlier or later in one place than in another on account of variation in latitude and longitude. The *Rūiyyat* system is therefore subject to considerable uncertainty and ill-adapted for chronological purposes.

The other two methods of computation involve—when strictly followed—the regular adding up of hours and minutes and are for that reason unsuitable for popular use. The necessity of devising some simple formula or system by which the application of the mean-lunation method could be facilitated was felt so early as the third century of the Hijra by Muslim chronologists and a short cut to practical accuracy was devised by a book-rule which is founded on the following considerations.

We have seen that, according to Muslim astronomers, the mean lunation is 29 d. 12 h. 44 m. or just 44 minutes in excess of  $29\frac{1}{2}$  days. The mean lunar year (of 12 mean lunations) is, therefore,  $354\frac{1}{2}$  days. If then the months beginning from Muharram have alternately 30 and 29 days each, the common year will consist of 354 days and the fraction will amount to exactly 11 days in 30 years. The addition of a day to the last month (Zī-l-ḥajja) in 11 years out of 30 would square up the account at the end of the cycle, and a result would be arrived at, which in the long run, would be sufficiently correct for all practical purposes. (Cunningham, *Indian Eras*, p. 66)

Now this is a rule-of-thumb and it is not mathematically exact, but it can be easily remembered and applied by the man in the street. Unfortunately, there is a certain amount of difference of opinion and also usage as regards the order of intercalation. It would appear from Albīrūnī that an astronomer named Habsh was in favour of adding one day in each of the 2nd, 5th, 8th, 11th, 13th, 16th, 19th, 21st, 24th, 27th and 30th years. Others have advocated arrangements differing in respect of three or four years from the foregoing. (*Chronology of Ancient Nations*, Tr. Sachau, 179–181; 416. For Habsh, see Jarrett, *Āin*, Tr. II, 7 note).

The *Ordo Intercalationis* which has found most favour is

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<sup>1</sup> A society named the ' *Anjuman-i-Rūiyyat-Hilāl* ' has been recently founded in Bombay by some devout and influential Muhammadans with a view to the observance of the 'Ida and other festivals by all the Faithful in India, according to this, the only method which is in harmony with the Law and Practice of the Arabian Prophet ( شریعت ).

that in which a day is added in the 2nd, 5th, 7th, 10th, 13th, 16th, 18th, 21st, 24th, 26th and 29th years. This is the system adopted in the *Zich-i-Jadid* or 'Tables of Ulugh Beg' and the Tables of Gladwin, Cunningham and Wüstenfeld also postulate the same arrangement. Mr. Sewell, however, substitutes 15th for 16th Indian Calendar, p. 102) and in the order adopted by Jervis, the 8th, 19th and 27th years are intercalary instead of the 7th, 18th and 26th (Cunningham, Indian Eras, 68)

Now these Tables of Wüstenfeld and others are undoubtedly useful, but it should not be forgotten that the *Book-rule* which is their foundation is only an empirical or rough and ready device for avoiding the complicated calculations associated with the continuous summation of mean lunations (or *Tithis*) in the original system.

It is, in fact, a sub-variety of that method in which matters are simplified for the sake of the layman. By this mode of adjustment, the reckoning is somehow brought into accord with the mean revolutions of the moon, but this can take place only *in the long run*—after the lapse of thirty years. The results yielded by its application may be correct within limits or for practical purposes, but they can never be mathematically accurate. Nor can they be expected to accord exactly or always with those arrived at by any of the other three methods founded on the Heliacal Rising of the Moon, or its True or Mean-Motion.

I have shown that competent Musalmān authors are fully aware of the divergencies between the *Hilālī* and *Hisābī* dates and occasionally take care to mention both. It can hardly be said that European chronologers have always grasped the distinction and many of them write as if the *Book-rule* method was the only one in existence or the only one that was correct. For instance, Cunningham complains that he has discovered a discrepancy of one day, in no less than eight cases, between the dates given by his 'Tables' and those recorded in Musalmān histories and inscriptions. He admits that none of these discrepancies can be explained on the supposition of one of the variant 'orders of intercalation' having been adopted, and he opines that they must be ascribed to "carelessness on the part of the writers." (Indian Eras, p. 68.) Now there is in *all* these eight cases a common feature or peculiarity which is noteworthy. It is that the week-day obtained by means of Cunningham's and the other European Tables founded on the *Book-rule* is *always* one day behind the week-day recorded in the contemporary chronicles or inscriptions. For instance, where the Histories have Tuesday, the Tables show Monday, where the former give Friday and Wednesday, the latter yield Thursday and Tuesday respectively. It seems to me that a systematic or methodical variation of this sort cannot be ascribed to 'carelessness' and that the true explanation is to

be sought in the writers having employed one or other of the three methods which have been described above, and all of which may be safely said to have been familiarly known to Musalmān *litterateurs*.

It is now forty years since Cunningham's book was published, but it would appear from the observations, founded on a similar misapprehension which occur in a more recent work of great merit that the subject is not yet clearly understood.

"There is," writes Mrs. Beveridge, "singular variation between the *Bāburnāma* and Wustenfeld's *Tables*, both as to the day of the week on which months began, and as to the length of some months. \* \* \* The two authorities agree as to the initial week-day of four months [only] out of twelve [of the year 935 Hifri]. \* \* \* In eight of the months, the *Bāburnāma* reverses the 'book-rule' of alternative Muharram 30 days, Safar 29 days *et seq.* by giving Muharram 29, Safar 30. \* \* \* Again these eight months are in pairs having respectively 29 and 30 days and the year's total is 364 [*recte* 354]. \* \* \* It would be interesting if some expert in this Musalmān matter would give the reasons dictating the changes from the rule noted above as occurring in 935 A.H. (Memoirs of Bābur, Fasc. III, lxxi-ii).

It would lead me too far from the subject of these inquiries to enter into an examination of Bābur's chronology. It must suffice here to point out that these remarks imply a radical misunderstanding of the nature, origin and purpose of the Book-rule. There is nothing fixed or immutable about it. There are no grounds for believing it to have been in universal vogue and there is not the smallest warrant for supposing it to be the crystallized expression of the only system in use.

The arrangement by which 30 and 29 days are assigned in alternation to the months is purely factitious and there is nothing to be surprised at in its reversal or modification. A casual, and therefore all the more significant observation made by Bābur himself would *seem* to indicate that his mode of reckoning had nothing whatever to do with the book-rule and that it was the orthodox or strictly legal or popular one connected with the Heliacal Rising or visibility (*Rūṣṣyat*) of the planet. He declares that in the year 935 A.H., only 29 days were allotted to Ramzān (the book-rule assigns 30), because, though "the sky was not clear, a few people saw the Moon, and so testifying to the Qāzi, fixed the end of the month." (*Op. cit.*, 683.) The fact that the eight months are in pairs, having respectively 29 and 30 days each, would also appear to point in the same direction. But it is not impossible that some of the other dates in the day-to-day record of this particular year were taken by the author straight from a *Taqīm* or Almanack based on one of the two other types of the *Hicābī* system.

I have said that the belief in the universal or exclusive vogue of the book-rule method is founded on a gratuitous assumption, and I have cited a passage from Bābur's Memoirs which shows that it was subject to alteration and even set aside altogether in favour of the 'results of popular observation.' I will now cite the testimony of another writer of the period which confirms that opinion. In the "Memoirs of Bāyazīd Biyāt" which have not yet been published in the original, but of which Mr. Beveridge has given an interesting and useful summary in the Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, we read :

"Apparently when Humāyūn went westward, Bāyazīd proceeded in the opposite direction towards Mashhad, for he was there with his father when Humāyūn arrived on the first Shawwāl 951 (16th December, 1544). It was the day of the 'Idu-l-fitr or the breaking of the fast of the Ramzān, but the weather had been so bad from rain and snow that the people of Mashhad had not been able to see the moon. Humāyūn, however, was able to satisfy the Qāzi that he had seen the moon, when crossing the Zaql Pass on the previous evening, and so after 9 A.M. all the inhabitants proceeded to the 'Idgāh." (*Loc. cit.*, Vol. LXVII, 1898, pp. 297-8.)

This is not all. There is another matter also which requires to be borne in mind when taking from European Tables the week-day of any Hijri date. This is that the Muhammadan day begins not from sunrise or midnight but from sunset. "In Persian documents," says Mr. Reginald Stuart Poole, "the word شب 'night,' denotes the first moiety, روز 'day,' the second, \* \* \*. There is thus a discrepancy in the beginning of any day in Muslim and European reckoning, amounting to the interval from sunset to midnight, each day of the week beginning so much earlier than with us in Muslim countries, our eve of Sunday for instance, being their night of the day. \* \* \* This is shown in Ideler's remarks on the initial day of the Hijra, reckoned by the Easterns as Thursday, July 14-15, A.D. 622; by the Europeans as the Oriental Friday, 15-16 (*Handbuch*, II. 482-485). \* \* \* Wüstenfeld's Tables \* \* \* following the European reckoning, begin the calendar with Friday, July 16, which should be Thursday-Friday, 15-16. Thus in converting dates we can use Wüstenfeld's Tables, *allowing for his neglect of the portion of the European day, and also for the possibility of the difference of a day on either side due to observation.*"

(Coins of the Shāhs of Persia, xv-xvi. The italics are mine.)

In these circumstances, it is futile to look for exact coincidence between the dates and week-days given in the Mughal Chronicles and the equivalents obtained by the

application of the book-rule by modern calculators. The European Tables have no claim whatever to infallibility and their sole foundation is an artificial formula which has nothing to recommend it except its general utility or convenience for practical purposes. It cannot therefore be too often repeated that the Tables are liable to mislead. if allowances are not made for the possibility of error on not one, but *two* grounds, the discrepancy of a day arising from the general use among orthodox Muslims *in old times* of a computation resting only on 'popular observation' of the New Moon and the similar difference due to the "neglect of the portion of the European day" between sunset and midnight.

But this does not exhaust the sources of error and confusion. There is yet another, which from the numismatological point of view, is even more important than any of the foregoing. It is that the *real* dates of accession given in the historical works are often very different from the *official*. Akbar was the first Emperor who fixed an *artificial* date for his *Julūs* and his not very commendable example was followed by Jahāngir, Shāh Jahān, Aurangzeb, Bahādur Shāh Shāh'Ālam I, Farrukhsiyar, Muḥammad Shāh, Aḥmad Shāh, 'Ālamgir II and Shāh 'Ālam II. In other words, ten out of the fifteen regular Emperors appear to have deliberately promulgated fictitious or factitious and sophisticated dates for their coming to the throne. Now it is this *official date* or reckoning with which, notwithstanding its admittedly suppositious and unreal character, the numismatist is most concerned. The right of coining money has been always regarded by Asiatic rulers as the most formal and deliberate sign of sovereignty, and it would be unthinkable to suppose that any other date than that fixed by Imperial decree would be permitted to make its appearance on the coins. The inevitable result of this extraordinary procedure is that the true or correct date is not only useless for numismatic purposes, but positively calculated to mislead. The neglect of this precaution has been fruitful of error. Many regnal dates on the coins which are *officially* quite correct, have been queried or confidently stigmatised by present-day numismatists as errors, and attributed to the carelessness or incompetence of the mint-masters.

It will be seen that the investigation of the subject is beset with difficulties of all sorts and that precision of statement in regard to many points must be unattainable without considerable labour and meticulous attention to details. But the matter itself is not undeserving of such toil. We all know that it was thought worthy of careful treatment by the late Dr. Taylor, and the results of his industry have been incorporated bodily and without alteration by Mr. Whitehead and Mr. Brown in their Catalogues.

It is needless to say that Dr. Taylor's article (Num. Supp.

VII § 51) is a creditable piece of work, but my own independent researches in the same field have brought to light several mistakes and defects. Dr. Taylor was, from his inability to read the original authorities, necessarily dependant on the abstracts and translations in Elliot and Dowson's History and on Beale's Biographical Dictionary. Unfortunately, several of the Hijri dates given by those authorities are demonstrably erroneous, and these mistakes have been quite innocently reproduced by Dr. Taylor and transferred from his pages by Mr. Whitehead and Mr. Brown to their own publications. Several clerical slips and typographical blunders also stand in need of rectification. A much more serious defect is the almost total omission of any reference to the fictitious *official dates* of accession, without a knowledge of which it is impossible to understand the significance or interpret *correctly* the regnal dating of the coins.

#### BĀBUR.

According to Bābur's own 'Memoirs,' the *Khutba* was first read in his name at Dehli on Friday, 15 Rajab, 932 A.H. (Bāburnāmā or Tūzuk-i-Bāburi, Trans. A. S. Beveridge, 476 = Leyden and Erskine's Trans. 308 = Elliot and Dowson, IV, 25.)

Nizāmu-d-dīn Ahmad says that the battle of Pānipat was fought on Friday, 8th Rajab, 932 and that the *Khutba* was read on the Friday following (Ṭabaqāt-i-Akbari, Lakhnau Lith. 186, l. 15 and 187, l. 10). Here *هشتم* is probably a copyist's mistake for *هشتم*.

Badāoni, who as a rule, follows Nizāmu-d-dīn closely, gives Friday, the 8th of Rajab as the day of the battle but adds that the Emperor "after gaining this signal victory departed thence [*Sciḡ*. Pānipat] and reached Dehli on the same [week ?] day [ *همان روز در دهمی نزل فرمود* ] and encamped there. He then caused the *Khutba* to be read in his name." (Muntakhabu-t-Tawārīkh, Tr. Ranking, I. 441; Text, I. 335, l. 1; 336, l. 11.) This would imply that the *Khutba* was read on the 8th of Rajab but this is demonstrably erroneous and is due to a careless perusal or misapprehension of his authority.

Abūl Fazl does not give the precise date of the first proclamation of the Imperial titles from the pulpits. He merely says that the battle was fought on Friday, the 8th of Rajab, that Bābur alighted in Dehli on Wednesday, the 12th and that he "unfolded the umbrella of Fortune in Āgra on Friday, the 21st" (*Akbar-nāmā*, Tr. Beveridge, I. 242, 247; Text, I. 95, 98). Here, both the week-days seen to be wrongly given. If the 8th was a Friday, the 12th was a Tuesday, and the 21st a Thursday.

Firishta says the battle was fought on Friday, 10th Rajab, that Bābur entered Dehli on the 12th, that the *Khutba* was first read there by Sheikh Zain and that the Emperor reached

Āgra on the 22nd (Briggs' Trans., Calcutta Reprint, II. 44, 46; Lakhnau Lith. I. 204).

These conflicting statements are, at first sight, puzzling, but it is not difficult to divine the causes of error. There can be little doubt that the first public announcement of the advent of Mughal dominion was made on the 15th of Rajab, 932 which corresponded according to Wüstenfeld's Tables, to Friday, 27th April, 1526 A.C.

### DEATH.

5 Jumādā I, 937 (Tabaqāt-i-Akbarī, p. 192, two lines from foot).

Monday, 5 Jumādā I (Gulbadan, Humāyūn-Nāma, Tr. 109; Text, 24).

6 Jumādā I (Akbar-nāma, Tr. I 277; Text, I. 118, l. 1).

Monday, 5 Jumādā I (Firishta, Briggs' Tr. II. 64; Text, I. 211, l. 14).

6 Jumādā I, 937, is given also by the authors of the *Bādishāhnāma*, Text, I. i. 62, l. 11 and *'Amal-i-Sālih*, 22, l. 12. The latter says it was Monday.

According to Wüstenfeld, 5 Jumādā I, 937 A.H. corresponded to Sunday, 25 December, 1530 A.C. But the week-day is expressly stated to have been *Monday* by Bābur's daughter, the Princess Gulbadan, as well as the historian Firishta, and if this has been correctly given, the Julian equivalent must be 26 December, 1530. The Hijri date given by both is, it is true, the 5th. But this is probably the *Rūiyyat* date, the 6th being the *Hisābī*, i.e. the Mean Lunation or Book-rule date.

### HUMAYUN.

#### ACCESSION

The date is given as 9 Jumādā I, 937 in the *Tabaqāt-i-Akbarī*, 194, l. 6 = E.D. V. 188; *Akbar-nāma*, Tr. I. 286, Text, I. 121, three lines from foot; *Bādishāhnāma*, I. i. 63; l. 9; *'Amal-i-Sālih*, 17, l. 6).

The renowned historian and litterateur Khondamīr who was one of the Emperor's chosen associates and the Princess Gulbadan give the identical date but say that the week-day was *Friday*. (Humāyūn-Nāma, in Elliot and Dowson, V. 118 and Gulbadan, *Memoirs*, Tr. 110, Text, 25, l. 14.)

The historian explicitly states that the "*Khutba* was read in the Jām'a Masjid at Āgra on Friday, the 9th (*loc. cit.*, *ibid.*). He was probably himself present and he could hardly be wrong in such a matter. The point to note is that if the 6th (*Hisābī*) was a Monday, the 9th must have been a Thursday. But if, as I have suggested, Monday corresponded to 5th (*Rūiyyat*), 9th (*Rūiyyat*) must have fallen on a Friday. The

conclusion is that the date of Humāyūn's accession as recorded by all the authorities is that according to popular observation, but that the date of Bābur's death is given by some of them according to the *Hisābī* system. The dates of both events given by Bābur's daughter only are consistent with each other and are both in conformity with the *Rūiyyat* reckoning. If the week-day is correctly given, the Julian correspondence must be 30th December, 1530 A.C.

#### END OF THE FIRST REIGN.

Humāyūn may be reasonably supposed to have ceased to be Emperor on the day on which he was decisively defeated at Qanauj. The date of this event is given by all the authorities as 10 Muḥarram, 947 A.H. (Jouher, *Tezkereh Al Vakiāt*, Trans. Stewart, 21; *Ṭabaqāt-i-Akbārī*, 202, l. 6 = E.D. V 205; *Akbarnāma*, I. 164, l. 14; Tr. I. 351; *Firishta*, I. 218 four lines from foot; Briggs, II. 90; *Bādishāhnāma*, I. i, 64 six lines from foot.) 10 Muḥarram, 947 was according to Wüstenfeld = 17 May 1540 A.C.

#### SECOND REIGN.

It is not easy to fix the exact date of its commencement.

He entered Lāhor on 2 Rab'ī II, 962 A.H. (*Akbarnāma*, I. 343; Trans. I. 624).

The battle of Sarhind was fought, according to Abūl Fazl, on 2 Sha'bān, 962 (*Akbarnāma*, I. 348, two lines from foot, Trans. I. 631), but according to *Firishta* on the last day [سابع] of Rajab, which Briggs, following the common book-rule, supposes to have been the 29th. The author of the *Akbarnāma* afterwards explicitly informs his readers that the Emperor "entered Dehli on the 4th of Ramzān and became established on the throne of the *Khilāfat*." (I. 351, l. 8; Trans. I. 634.)

Nizāmu-d-dīn Ahmad, Badāoni and *Firishta* all concur in asserting that Humāyūn entered Dehli in the month of Ramzān, but none of them has troubled to give the exact date (*Tab. Akb.* 221, l. 12; Badāoni, Text, I. 462; Ranking's Trans. I. 596; *Firishta*, I. 242-3; Briggs' Tr II. 175-6). The author of the *Bādishāhnāma* gives the same dates as Abūl Fazl, but his testimony has no independent value, as he is merely copying from that author.

Humāyūn's restoration then may be, with good reason, dated from the 4th of Ramzān, 962 A.H., which according to Wüstenfeld, corresponded to Tuesday, 23rd July. 1555 A.C.

According to the *Bibliotheca Indica* Text of the *Akbarnāma*, 1 Ramzān, 962 was a Thursday (پنجشنبه) I. 351, l. 7. The 4th must have therefore been a Sunday. The discre-



pancy is unaccountable and must be due to some error or oversight.

### DEATH

The date of Humāyūn's death has been discussed at some length by Blochmann, (J.A.S.B. 1871, pp 136-138), Von Noer (The Emperor Akbar, I 67 note) and Mr. Beveridge, (*Akbarnāma*, Trans. I. 654-5 note.)

The date of the accident and that of its fatal termination are very variously given by the best authorities, but it is not, after all, difficult to eliminate the different sources of error and reach a reliable, if not absolutely certain decision on the matter. To enable the reader to take in at a glance and form an opinion of the evidential value of the statements occurring in the Mughal Chronicles, I have arranged them in parallel columns and in the order of the date of composition.

Authorities.	Date of Accident.	Date of Death.
Sidī Ali, <i>Mirātu-l-Mamālik</i> , Tr. Vambery, 55.	Friday evening in Rab'ī I, 963. A.H.	Monday, third day after accident.
Nafāisu l-Maāsir, MS. quoted in J.A.S.B., 1905, p. 237.	16 Rab'ī I. ..	18 Rab'ī I.
Tabaqāt-i-Akbarī, Text, 222, l. 1 = E.D. V. 240.	عروب, Sunset of 7 Rab'ī I (Text); E.D. has 8th.	Evening [عروب] of 15th Rab'ī I.
Badāonī, Text, I. 465-6, Ranking, Tr. I. 600-1.	7th Rab'ī I, 963, ..	15th Rab'ī I.
Akbarnāma, Text, I, 303, Tr. I. 654, 658.	Close of Friday [آخر روز] of Rab'ī I.	Seventeen days before Akbar's accession.
Firishta, Text, I. 243, l. 11; Tr. II. 178.	Sunset, 7th Rab'ī, I ..	Sunset, 11th Rab'ī I.
Bādishahnāma, I. i. 63, l. 17, and I. i. 65, l. 15.	—	Sunday, 13 Rab'ī I, 963.
'Amal-i-Salīh, Text, 17, l. 15, and 18, l. 4.	Evening of 11th Rab'ī I.	Sunday, 13th Rab'ī I.
Khāfi Khān, Text, I. 124, Four lines from foot.	5th Rab'ī I. 963. ..	Sunset, 11th Rab'ī I

These discrepancies are very puzzling but, all this notwithstanding, it is not impossible to arrive at the truth. The marrow of the matter seems to be that the accident took place at or after sunset on a Friday in Rab'ī I, 963 A.H. Now ac-

According to Wüstenfeld's Tables, 1 Rab'ī I, 963, was a Tuesday. It is clear then that the event must have occurred on the 4th, 11th, 18th or 25th of the month. Now Abūl Faẓl says that the *Khuṭba* was first read in Akbar's name at Karnāl on the 28th of Rab'ī I—seventeen days after the accident. The Turkish admiral Sīdī 'Alī also who was an eyewitness of the fall, informs us that the Emperor died on Monday evening and that he himself afterwards left Dehli for Lāhor on a Thursday in the middle of the same month. This might be safely supposed to have been the 17th and all these indications point to the accident having taken place on Friday evening, 11th Rab'ī I, and the death at sunset on our Sunday [Muḥammadan Monday] evening, 13 Rab'ī I, 963 A.H.

It will be seen that this conclusion is in exact accord with the statements of the author of the *Bādishāhnāma* whose efforts to settle the chronology of the reigns of the Timurides have justly earned the praise of Blochmann. (J.A.S.B., 1871, p. 138.)

In this matter, assurance has been now made doubly sure by the discovery of the Original draft (*brouillon*) of the first volume of Abūl Faẓl's *Akbarnāma*. In this Manuscript, "it is clearly stated that the fall occurred on Friday, the 11th of the month (Rab'ī-al-awwal) and that Humāyūn died on the following Sunday, 13th idem." (H. Beveridge, 'A new MS. of the *Akbarnāma*' in *Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain*, 1903, p. 121.)

According to Wüstenfeld's Tables, Sunday, 13th Rab'ī I, 963 A.H. corresponded to 26th January, 1556 A.C.

## AKBAR.

### ACCESSION.

2 Rab'ī II, 963 A.H. (Tab. Akb. Text, 222, l. 14); Friday, 2 Rab'ī I, 963 A.H. (*ib.*, Text, 242, l. 20). [The month is wrongly given in the second statement] E.D.V. 241 247.

Friday, 2 Rab'ī II, 963 (Badāonī, Text, II. 8. Lowe, 19). Abūl Faẓl says the *Khuṭba* was first recited in Akbar's name at Dehli on 28 Rab'ī I, 963, seventeen days after Humāyūn's accident. (Akb. Nām. Text, I. 364, l. 12, Trans. I 658.) The coronation, however, took place "near noon of Friday, which was according to visibility [رویت], the 2nd of Rab'ī-us-sānt 963 of the Lunar year [فمری], but by Mean calculation [باصر اوسط], the third, 10 Isfandārmaz *Māh-i-Jalālī* of the year 477; 15 Tīr *Māh-i-Qadīmī* of the Yazdajardi year 925; 14 Shabāt *Māh-i-Rūmī* of the year 1867." (Akb. Nām. Text, II, 8, l. 21; Trans. II. 5.)

day [Friday] is also given by several other authors. (Firishta, Text, I. 244 ; Briggs, Trans. II, 182 ; Bādishāhnāma, Text, I. i. 66, l. 13 ; 'Amal-i-Šāliḥ, Text, 15, l. 9 ; Khāfi Khān, Text, I. i. 127, l. 15.)

According to Wüstenfeld's Tables, 2 Rab'ī II, 963 = 14 February, 1556 A.C. was a Friday, and this may be taken to be the correct equivalent date in the Christian Era.

But when Akbar founded the new Solar Era, he ordered the years of his *Julūs* to be reckoned, not from the 2nd of Rab'ī II, 963 but from the *Nauroz* of that year. The reason of this departure from custom is thus stated by Abūl Faḡl.

"Inasmuch as the wise of the past and the present are agreed that whenever some glorious event is made the foundation of an era, the latter should begin from the proximate New Year [ *از نوروزی که قریب باشد* ] without regard to a discrepancy either in previousness or lateness [ *کم و بیش را منظور ندارند* ], the sundry days before the New Year were reckoned as included in the New Year, [ *چند روز پیش نوروز را داخل نوروز اعتبار کرده* ], and the latter was made the beginning of the Divine Era." (Akb. Nāmā, Text, II. 18, l. 21 ; Trans. II. 33.)

The "sundry days" were according to Abūl Faḡl, twenty-five, and the initial date of the Ilāhī Era or of Akbar's *Official Accession* was Wednesday, 28 Rab'ī II, 963 A.H. (Akb. Nām. Text, II. 18 ; Trans II. 32). According to the *Tabaqāt*, it was Monday, 27 Rab'ī II. (Text, 242, last line = E D. V. 247), but the author himself says on the same page that 2 Rab'ī II was a Friday, in which case, the 27th would be a Tuesday and the 28th a Wednesday. Abūl Faḡl's chronology is, as a rule, much more accurate and reliable than Niẓāmu-d dīn's, and we may take it that the initial date was Wednesday, 28 Rab'ī II, 963 A.H. = 11 March, 1556, which was according to Wüstenfeld, a Wednesday.

#### DEATH.

Night of Wednesday, 4 Ābān [50 Ilāhī]. 'Ināyat ullaḥ (Takmilā-i-Akbarnāmā, Bibl. Ind. Text, III. 841, l. 13). The author afterwards says that the body [ *جسد مطهر* ] was taken to the burial ground on Wednesday morning [ *صبح روز چهارشنبه* ] *Ib.*, 842, l. 3, which shows that the death took place on our Tuesday night.

Wednesday, 13 Jumādā II, 1014 (Firishta, Text, I. 271, l. 25 = Briggs, II. 280).

Night of Wednesday [ *دیناچه* ], 12 Jumādā II .1014 = 2 Ābān (Bād. Nām. I. i. 66, l. 17).

After one paḥt and seven gharis of the night of Wednesday—Jumādā II = 2 Ābān, 50th year Akbarshāhī. ('Amal-i-Šāliḥ, 15-16)

*Midnight of Wednesday, 12 Jumādā II, 1014. (Khāfi Khān, Text, I, 235, l. 5.)*

*Night of Wednesday, 13 Jumādā II. 1014. (Muḥammad Hādī's Introduction [دباجة] to Tūzuk-i-Jahāngīrī, p. 17, l. 22)*

It will be seen that there is the usual difference of a day in reference to the Hijrī date. Akbar seems to have died *a little before or after midnight*. According to the '*Amal-i-Ṣāliḥ*,' the event took place 1 *pahr* and seven *gharis*, i.e. about six hours after the setting of the sun on Tuesday; according to Khāfi Khān, at midnight. Now 13 Jumādā II was = 26 October, 1605; Wednesday, according to Wüstenfeld. The correct European date would be 25-26 October (Tuesday-Wednesday), 1605 A.C. New Style, 15-16 October, Old Style.

It is clear then that Akbar ruled for 49 (solar) years, 8 months and 2 days, and that his death took place in the 50th year Ilāhī. It is, therefore, disconcerting to find Dr. Taylor, Mr. Whitehead and Mr. Brown asserting that his latest gold coin is dated, 51st Ilāhī. Dr. Taylor declares (Num. Sup. VII, p. 62) that the coin is in the British Museum and it is safe to say that the statement is founded on Mr. Lane Poole's reading of the date of B.M.C. No 175 (Pl. V). The metrical legend on the obverse was deciphered by him thus—

زر ست از مهر اکبر پادشاه نور      بر آن زر نام شد نور علی نور

and the date was made out to be ۵۱. Seventeen years before the publication of his Catalogue, an exactly identical coin had been described and figured in the Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal (Vol. XLV, 1876, p. 292, Pl. V, Fig. 7) by Mr. Delmerick and attributed by him to the 5th year of Akbar's *Julūs*. I have never been able to bring myself to accept either of these readings of the date and submit that both these coins are probably of the 50th year Ilāhī. Mr. Delmerick mistook the dot or small circle on the right of the ز of زر for an ornament or useless adjunct. It *may* really be the zero or cipher of ۵۰ (see Whitehead, P.M.C. Introd. lxv). Mr. Lane Poole supposed the perpendicular or upright stroke to the left of the ر of زر to be the units figure of ۵۱. It is, I venture to say, preferable to take it as the 'alif' of است, the second word, and read زر است instead of زر ست. The elision of the 'alif' is common and permissible, but its transcription in full is also correct. The line will scan perfectly well with it and its insertion is in accordance with the rules of Persian prosody. Coins, it may be observed are human documents and it may be said without much hazard of error, that the Ilāhī issues of Akbar and the mintages of his immediate successors are public manifestoes which were put forth or uttered with great care and after much thought and deliberation. Now it is a sound and uni-

versally accepted rule of construction that if the words of a document are susceptible of two decipherments or interpretations, one of which necessarily implies error or ignorance on the part of the promulgator, it is not to be entertained without the clearest proof and the most pressing necessity. The burden of proving the error is on the challenger and the presumption of it without proof is neither fair nor justifiable. In the present case, the reading '50' is *at least as supportable* as the rival decipherment 51, and does not besides, involve any such gratuitous assumption. It is therefore to be preferred, and there would appear to be no warrant for predicating the existence of a coin of the 51st year *Ilāhī* or for presupposing the mint-master of the Imperial Capital (Āgra) to have been so stupid or ignorant as not to know that the 51st solar year of the great Emperor's reign had not yet commenced.

### JAHĀNGIR.

#### ACCESSION.

One astronomical after sunrise on Thursday 8 [a misprint for 20] *Jumādā II*, 1014 (*Tūzuk i-Jahāngiri*, I, l. 1; *Trans.* I, 1).

Thursday, 11 *Jumādā II*, 1014 (*Iqbāl-nāma*, 2, l. 3).

Thursday, 20 *Jumādā I*, 1014 = *Roz 11* (*Khūr*), *Ābān Māh-i-Ilāhī*. (*Farhang-i-Jahāngiri*, *Lakhnau Lith.*, 1293 A.H., Preface p. 6, last line.) [The *Hijrī* month is wrongly given, probably by oversight.]

Thursday, 20 *Jumādā II*, 1014 A.H. = 10 *Ābān*, 50th year *Akbarshāhī*. (*Bād. Nām.* I, i. 69, l. 7).

One astronomical hour after daylight on Thursday, 20 *Jumādā II*, 1014. (*ʿAmal-i-Sālih*, 12, l. 7.) Elsewhere (*ibid.*, 36, l. 9) he says it was 10th *Ābān Māh-i-Ilāhī*.

Thursday, 20 *Jumādā II*, 1014 A.H. (*Khāfi Khān*, I. 246, l. 14). According to *Wüstenfeld*, 20 *Jumādā II*, 1014 = 2 November was a Wednesday. But *Jahāngir* himself repeatedly says that the day of his *Julūs* was a Thursday (*Tūzuk*, *Trans.* I. 9, 184, 386) and all our authorities are absolutely unanimous on the point. The correct European equivalent, therefore, must be, not 2nd November, but Thursday, 3rd November, 1605 (New Style) or 24th October (Old Style).

The official date of *Jahāngir*'s accession, however, was very different from the actual day of the enthronement. He ordered the *Julūs* reckoning to start from the *Nauroz*—the entrance of the sun into Aries. This took place, he himself tells us, on the night of Tuesday, *Zī-l-qaʿda* 11th, A.H. 1014, "in the morning, which is the time of the blessing of light," i.e. on Tuesday morning according to the European reckoning. (*Tūzuk*, *Trans.* I. 48; *Text*, 22, l. 18.)

11th *Zī-l-qaʿda*, 1014 is given also by the author of the '*Iqbāl-nāma*' (*Text*, 8, l. 6) and *Khāfi Khān* (I. 249, l. 16).

According to Wüstenfeld, 11-xi-1014 A.H. = Tuesday, 21 March, 1606, New Style (11 March, 1606, Old Style).

#### DEATH.

*Breakfast time* [ هنگام چاشت ], Sunday 28, Şafar 1037 = 15 Ābān XXII *Julūs*. (Iqbāl-nāma, 293, l. 14. See also E.D. VI, 435).

Sunday, 28 Şafar, 1037 A.H. = 15 Ābān. (Bād. Nām. I, l. 69, l. 19).

Twelve *gharīs* [i.e. 4 hours and 48 minutes] after sunrise on Sunday, 28 Şafar, 1037 A.H. = 15 Ābān ('Amal-i-Şāliḥ, 205, l. 9; see also *ibid.*, p. 13, l. 7).

Breakfast time, end of Şafar 1037 A.H. (Kh. Kh., I, 388, l. 20).

Muḥammad Hādī copies the Iqbāl-nāma but has 'eleventh' [ یازدهم ] instead of 'fifteenth' [ پانزدهم ] Ābān, (Continuation of Tūzūk, ed. Sayyad Aḥmad Khān 421, l. 14.)

According to Wüstenfeld, 28 Şafar, 1037 = Monday, 8 November, 1627, New Style

But according to the contemporary authorities, Jahāngīr would appear to have died on *Sunday morning* which would give 7th November, 1627, New Style, or 28 October, 1627 (Old Style).

Sir Thomas Herbert who is sometimes cited as a valuable contemporary authority for the reigns of Akbar and Jahāngīr says, the latter "died (suspected of poyson), the twelfth of October or Ardabehish in the year of our accompt 1627 and of the Hegira 1007!" (Travels, Ed. 1665, p. 102.)

#### DĀWAR BAKSH.

##### ACCESSION.

The *Khuṭba* was read in his name by the orders of Āṣaf Khān in the environs [ حوالی ] of Bhimbar soon after Jahāngīr's death. (Iqbāl-nāma, 295, l. 1 = E.D. VI, 436; Muḥammad Hādī, *op cit.*, 422, l. 4; Khāfi Khān, I, 389, l. 11), but the precise date is nowhere given.

Nevertheless, as Jahāngīr died on 28 Şafar, 1037 A.H. at Changaz Hattī which is three stages [ منزل ] or twelve koss distant from Bhimbar, (Iqbāl-nāma, 298, l. 3 = E.D. VI, 437; Bādishāhnāma, I, ii, 17-18: 'Ālamgīrnāma, 822-3; Bernier's Travels Ed. Constable and Smith, 1914, p. 401 note), the ceremony may be reasonably supposed to have taken place about the 3rd or 4th of Rab'ī I, 1037 A.H. As the 4th of Rab'ī I, was a Friday, it is probable that the *Khuṭba* was read in the mosque at Bhimbar during the Jām'a prayers on the afternoon of 12th November, 1627 A.C., N.S.

## DEATH.

Wednesday, 26 Jumādā I, 1037 = 13 Bahman. (Iqbāl-nāma, 303, l. 14 = E.D. VI, 438).

Night of Wednesday, 25 Jumādā I, 1037 (Bād. Nām. I. i. 219, l. 13; 'Amal-i-Ṣāliḥ' 219, l. 13; Muḥammad Hādī, *op. cit.*, 425. five lines from foot).

22 Jumādā I, 1037 A.H. (Khāfi Khān, I. 394, l. 4). The author of the 'Maāṣiru-l-Umarā' gives 26th Jumādā I, at I. 156, l. 8, but 25th Jumādā I, at p. 714, l. 7 of the same volume.

According to Wüstenfeld, 25 Jumādā I, 1037 A.H. = Tuesday, 1st February, 1628 (New Style). Dāwar Bakhsh would appear to have been put to death during the night of Tuesday-Wednesday, 1-2 February, 1628, New Style (22-23 January, Old Style).

## SHĀH JAHĀN

The *Khutba* was first recited by Aṣaf Khān's orders in Shāh Jahān's name at Lāhor on Sunday, 22 Jumādā I, 1037 A.H. = 10 Bahman, XXII<sup>nd</sup> year of Jahāngir's reign (Iqbāl-nāma, 303, l. 9 = E.D. VI, 438; Bād. Nām. I. i. 79, l. 15; Muḥammad Hādī, *op. cit.*, 425, l. 24 Dowson's 2 Jumādā I is a clerical or typographical error).

According to Wüstenfeld, 22-v-1037 A.H. = Saturday, 29 January, 1628 A.C., New Style or 19 January, Old Style. If the week-day یکشنبه has been correctly given by the contemporary chronicles, the Julian equivalent must be 30th January, N.S.

## ACCESSION.

Monday, 8 Jumādā II, 1037 A.H., 25 Bahman *Māh-i-Ilāhī*; 1 Isfandārmaz *Māh-i-Jalālī*, 549 Malikshahī; 27 Tīr *Māh-i-Qadīmī*, 997 Yazdajardī; 4 Shabāṭ *Māh-i-Rūmī*, 1,939th year of Alexander [Seleucidan Era]. (Bād. Nām. I. i. 87, l. 2.)

Three gharis and a half [i.e. 84 minutes] after sunrise on Monday, 7th Jumādā II, 1037 A.H. ('Amal-i-Ṣāliḥ, 225, l. 4, but he has 8th Jumādā II, at p. 261, l. 16.)

One astronomical [روانی] hour and a half after sunrise on 7 Jumādā II, 1037 = 25 Bahman *Māh-i-Ilāhī*, Khāfi Khān I, 395, l. 9. Muḥammad Hādī has Monday, 27th Jumādā II, 1037 A.H. instead of 7th, but this is probably a clerical or typographical error (*loc. cit.*, 426, l. 21).

In Dowson's abridged translation of the 'Bādishāhnāma' (E.D. VII, 6), we have "18 Jumādā the second, 1037 A.H." and this has been followed by Dr. Taylor and Mr. Whitehead. It is demonstrably erroneous and is, in all probability, a slip of the pen.

It will be seen that there is the usual discrepancy of a day

in the above statements, which may be due either to the confusion between *هفتم* and *مشتم* of the conflict between the *Hisābī* and *Rūiyyat* reckoning.

The true date of his accession is, curiously enough, recorded in the *Emperor's own handwriting* on the flyleaf of a manuscript of Nizāmi's *Khīradnāma-i-Iskandarī* dated 945 A.H. which was exhibited before the Asiatic Society of Bengal as "25 Bahman Ilāhī, corresponding to the 8th Jumādā, II, 1037 A.H.," Blochmann in Proc. A.S.B., 1869, pp. 190-1. The exact-Julian equivalent also is recorded by an eyewitness in a document edited by Mr. Foster. The Factors of the English East India Company at Āgra write thus in a letter addressed to the President and Council of Surat on the 17th February, 1628: "As you weare advised by ours of the prime current as aforesaid, Shaw Jehann sate on his royall throne the 4th ditto, and was saluted and proclaimed King with Cattbah read according to the custome of his ancestors." English Factories in India, 1624-1630, p. 240. This 4th February is the date in the Old Style. The New Style equivalent would be the 14th.

#### OFFICIAL DATE OF ACCESSION.

Shāh Jahān was really enthroned on 8th Jumādā II, 1037, but orders were issued for reckoning the *Julūs* in *lunar years* from the 1st of Jumādā II, 1037 A.H., as "it was preferable to commence a year from the very beginning of a month." Bād.

امام چون ابتداء سال از سر آغاز ماه اولی ز پیدشگاه دانش [Nām, I i. 129, l. 1]

فرمان شد که بعد از سال فرخنده جلوس غرة جمادی الثانیة اعتبار کنند.

See also "Ālamgīrnāma" where the same statement is explicitly made (p. 388, l. 3). Khāfi Khān's chronology is, not infrequently, erratic and slipshod, but he also, as a rule, reckons the *Julūs* years from 1st Jumādā II. (Text, I 515, 566.)

#### DEPOSITION.

The Emperor fell ill on the 7th of Zi-l-hajja, 1067 A.H.; the battle of Dharmātpūr was fought on the 22nd of Rajab, 1068, and Dārā was defeated at Samūgarh on the 7th of Ramzān, 1068 A.H. (Ālamgīrnāma, Text, 94, five lines from foot; Maās. 'Ālam. 6, l. 16. Khāfi Khān in E.D. VII, 213, 219, 220.) But he was never formally deposed and it is therefore not at all easy to fix the exact day on which his reign came to an end. Still, it is safe to say that he was both Emperor *de jure* and Emperor *de facto* during the first eight months of 1068 A.H. The first coronation of Aurangzeb took place on the 1st of Zi-l-qa'da and we know that silver and copper coins bearing his name were put forward in that year, though the chroniclers



say that the settlement of the *Khujba* and the *Sikka* was left over for a more fitting occasion. It is highly probable that a few coins were struck merely in commemoration of the event. This day, then, on which we find the son celebrating his own accession and going, however hurriedly and perfunctorily, through the ceremony of a coronation may be safely taken as that on which the father was deposed to all intents and purposes and ceased to be Emperor.

Now I have shown elsewhere that Shāh Jahān's *julūs* years are to be reckoned on a lunar basis. The 32nd year of his reign, therefore began on the 1st of Jumādā, II, 1068 A.H. more than three months before the date of Aurangzeb's victory at Samūgarh. The mintages of 1068-32 are therefore perfectly regular. The difficulty arises in connection with some issues which display the Hijrī year 1069 and the *Julūs* figures 32 and 33. Some of these can be satisfactorily accounted for. I.M.C. 1082 is an issue of Tatta which exhibits the date 1069-32. I.M.C. 1083 and L.M.C. 2106-7 are from the same mint, but have 1069-33 on them. P.M.C. 1440 is of Multān mint and shows the date 1068-33. These coins were in all probability, struck in the name of the old Emperor by Dārā Shikoh or his partisans.

That unfortunate prince fled first to Lāhor and then to Multān, Bhakkar, Tatta and Ahmadābād. He reached Multān on 17 Zi-l ḥajja 1068 ('Ālamgirnāma, 204, l. 14), and after leaving his baggage and guns in the fortress of Bhakkar, left it on the 30th of Muharram, 1069 A.H. (*Ibid.*, 274, l. 17.) Tatta was reached on the 16th of Ṣafar. (*Ibid.*, 280, l. 14.) Bhakkar did not surrender for more than six months, and Aurangzeb was compelled, by the resumption of the offensive on the part of Shujā' to recall the pursuing army from Sind and abandon the province, for a time, to Dārā's adherents. (Manucci, *Storia*).

The 'Ālamgirnāma' says Shāh Jahān reigned for 31 lunar years 2 months and 23 days, or 30 Solar years 4 months and 18 days. Text, 934-5. [The author appears to have reckoned from 8 Jumādā II, 1037 to 1st Ramzān, 1068—the official date of Aurangzeb's accession.] The first statement is correct, but there is an error in the second. We know that 8 Jumādā II, 1037 = 25 Bahman, Ilāhī (Bād. Nām. I, i. 87, l. 2; 'Amal-i-Sālih, 261, l. 16), and that 1 Ramzān, 1068 = 14 Khūrdād Ilāhī ('Ālamgirnāma, 85, l. 20 and 94, l. 18.) Shāh Jahān would have thus reigned for only 30 Solar years 3 months and 18 days. The author of the *Maāṣir-i-Ālamgiri* roughly states that he ruled for 31 (lunar) years and 2 months (p. 53, l. 17).

Khāfi Khān asserts on the authority of 'Aqil Khān Khāfi's *Wāq'iat-i-Ālamgiri* that Aurangzeb "directed Prince Muḥammad Sulṭān to go into the fort of Āgra, and to place some of his trusty followers in charge of the gates" on 17th Ramzān,

1068. (Text, II, 22, l. 11 = E.D. VII, 226.) Dr. Taylor has followed this and supposed the Emperor's deposition to have commenced from the 17th of Ramzān, 1068 A.H. (18 June 1658 N S)

## DEATH.

اولى شب Night of Monday (دوشنبه), 26 Rajab, 1076 A.H. ('Ālamgīrnāma, 931, l. 8; Maāḡir-i-'Ālamgīrī, 53, l. 6.) End [او آخر] of Rajab 1076, A.H. (Khāfi Khān, II, 187, l. 2 = E.D. VII, 275.)

According to Wüstenfeld, 26 Rajab, 1076 = Monday, 1st February, 1666. It is not clear whether the Emperor died before midnight or after it. In the former case, the correct equivalent would be Sunday, 31st January (New Style) or 21st (Old Style); in the latter, 1st February (N.S.), or 22nd January, 1666 (O.S.).

## MURĀD BAKHSH.

## ACCESSION.

The exact date of his 'assumption of independence' is not given in any of the published authorities, but he may be presumed to have been enthroned some time after 7th Zī-l-ḥajja, 1067 A.H.—16th September, 1657 A.C., New Style, or 6th September, 1657, Old Style. ('Ālamgīrnāma, 27, l. 7; 29, l. 1; Maāḡ 'Ālam, 2, l. 17; 3, l. 3; Khāfi Khān, II 5, l. 2 = E.D. VII, 214; Mirāt-i-Aḥmadī, I, 248, two lines from foot.)

Mr. Jadunath Sarkar, however, says that "Murād had himself crowned at 4 hours 24 minutes after sunrise on the 20th November [Old Style], as the astrologers declared that there was such a conjunction of auspicious planets as would not happen again for many years to come. "The moment was too precious to be lost. In all hurry and secrecy, at the time indicated, Murād mounted a throne in his Hall of Private Audience, with only a few trusted officers as witnesses. \* \* \* The public coronation took place on 5th December with as much pomp and rejoicing as the low state of his finances would permit." The authority cited is the *Faiyāzu-l-Qawānīn*. MS., pp 473-4. (History of Aurangzib, I, 329-30.)

The Julian date of the first enthronement—20 November, 1657 (O.S.) corresponds to 23 Šafar, 1068 A.H. That of the second or public coronation, 5 December—to 9 Rab'ī I, 1068 A.H. (Gladwin's Tables.)

## DEPOSITION.

Murād Bakhsh was taken prisoner near Mathurā on 4 Shawwāl, 1068 A.H. ('Ālam. Nām., 138, l. 1; Khāfi Khān, II, 38, l. 12 = E.D. VII, 229; Mirāt-i-Aḥmadī. I, 252, l. 11). Maāḡ. 'Ālam. gives 2 Shawwāl, 1068. p. 8, l. 13.

4-x 1068 A.H. was=Saturday, 5 July, 1658 A.C. New Style; (26 June, Old Style).

Murād was put to death on Wednesday evening [ اربعاء روز ] 21 Rab'ī II, 1072 A.H. ('Amal-i Šāliḥ, Manuscript, p. 394, l. 7 = Elliot and Dowson, VII, 132). Khāfi Khān (II, 156, six lines from foot) gives the month, Rab'ī II, but not the day.

21-iv-1072 A.H. = Wednesday, 14 December, 1661 A.C., (New Style) or 4 December (Old Style)

### SHUJĀ'.

#### ACCESSION.

The precise date of Shāh Shujā's accession is nowhere given. All that can be said is that he 'rebelled, after 7th Zi-l-ḥajja, 1067 A.H.—the date of Shāh Jahān's illness ('Ālamgirnāma, 27, l. 7; 29, l. 1; Maāṣ. 'Ālam, 2, l. 17; 3, l. 5; Khāfi Khān, II, 5, l. 1 = ED. VII, 214).

#### DEFEAT.

Shujā' was defeated at Kajwa on Sunday, 19 Rab'ī II, 1069 = 23 Dai ('Ālam. Nām., 242, last line; Maāṣ. 'Ālam., 12, four lines from foot).

According to Wüstenfeld, 19-iv-1069 A.H. was = Tuesday, 14 January, 1659, A.C., New Style (4 January, Old Style).

The date of his flight from Jahāngirnagar (Dhākā) to Ārākān is given as Sunday, 6 Ramzān, 1070 A.H. ('Ālam. Nām., 557, l. 12, and 483, last line, and Maāṣ. 'Ālam, 30, six lines from foot).

6-ix-1070 A.H. was = Sunday, 16 May, 1661 A.C. (New Style) or 6 May (Old Style). (Wüstenfeld).

### AURANGZEB.

#### ACCESSION.

European writers—historians as well as numismatists—do not at all appear to be agreed as to the precise date of Aurangzeb's accession, which is supposed by some to have taken place in 1068 A.H. and by others in 1069 A.H. Elphinstone notes that he did not "put his name on the coin, and was not crowned until the first anniversary of his accession, a circumstance which has introduced some confusion into the dates of his reign" (History, Ed. Cowell, 1866, p. 599). Grant Duff observes that "he appears to have begun by reckoning his reign from the date of his victory over Dara, to have subsequently ascended the throne in the following year, and then changed the date, which he again altered by reverting to the former date at some later and unknown period." (History of the Mahrattas, Bombay Reprint, 1873, p. 72 note.) Mr. Lane Poole asserts in one place that he was proclaimed Emperor "in

May 1659 (1069)'' (B.M.C. Introd. xxvi,) but elsewhere dates the reign from July 1658 (Aurangzib, Rulers of India Series, p. 21). Dr. Taylor, reckons the reign from 1 Zī-l-qa'da, 1068 (21 July, 1658, Old Style) and has been followed by Mr. Whitehead and Mr. Brown.

It is permissible to say that neither Elphinstone nor Grant Duff nor any of the other writers mentioned appears to have grasped the truth of the matter which has been clouded and obscured by Grant Duff's imperfect apprehension of the words of the not always accurate *Khāfi Khān*. The question has been fully discussed and satisfactorily cleared up by the late Mr. Irvine in an article in the Journal of the Bengal Asiatic Society, Vol. lxii, 1893, pp. 256-261. As he has already cited the statements occurring in the '*Ālamgīrnāma* and the *Maāṣir-i-Ālamgīrī*, it will suffice to refer the reader to his pages and give here the net result of the inquiry.

#### DATE OF FIRST CORONATION.

Friday, 1 Zī-l-qa'da, 1068 A.H. corresponding to 11 Amar-dād. ('*Ālamgīrnāma*, 152, last line.) *Khāfi Khān* (II, 39, l. 21) gives the same Hijrī date and week-day, but does not mention the corresponding equivalent in the Ilāhī reckoning. The *Maāṣir-i-Ālamgīrī* has the identical Hijrī and Ilāhī date, but does not specify the week-day (p. 8, three lines from foot).

1 Zī l qa'da, 1068 was, according to Wüstenfeld = Wednesday, 31st July, 1658 A.C. (New Style). The week-day given by the authorities cannot be wrong. The true Julian equivalent must be 2nd August.

#### DATE OF SECOND CORONATION.

Sunday, 24 Ramzān, 1069 A.H. corresponding to 25th *Khūrdād*, Māh-i-Ilāhī, 25th *Khūrdād*, Māh-i-Jalālī of the 581st Malik Shāhī year, 6 Āzar Māh-i-Qadīmī [i.e. ancient or Old Persian] of the 1028th Yazdajardi year and 5 Haziran Māh-i-Rūmī of the 1970th Alexandrian [i.e. Seleucidian] year." ('*Ālamgīrnāma*, 361, two lines from foot.) The *Maāṣir-i-Ālamgīrī* gives Sunday, 24th Ramzān = 25 *Khūrdād* Māh-i-Ilāhī (p. 22, l. 10) and *Khāfi Khān* has only the Hijrī date. Dowson has 4th Ramzān in his Translation (E.D. VII, 241) but this is an error. The Text has 24th Ramzān (II, 76, l. 10).

According to Wüstenfeld's Tables, 24th Ramzān corresponded to Sunday, 15th June, 1659 A.C. New Style.

#### OFFICIAL DATE OF ACCESSION.

But the official date of accession was specially fixed by Imperial decree as 1 Ramzān, 1068 A.C. Muḥammad Sāqī, the author of the *Maāṣir-i-Ālamgīrī* explicitly says so :

چون لمعان انوار ظفودر شهر رمضان پرتو سعادت بر جهان گدازد حکم  
 معلیٰ بغاز پدوست که غرق آن ماه را مبداء سنن این دولت در دفاتر  
 و تقویم ثبت نمایند \*

p. 25, l. 2.

"As the reflection of the rays of Victory had spread the light of prosperity on the world in the month of Ramzān, the exalted command was issued that the 1st of that month should be entered as the initial date of the years of the reign in the official records and the almanacs" (p. 25, l. 2)

An exactly similar statement is made in still more grandiloquent terms in the '*Ālamgīrnāma*' (p. 388, l. 13) and this writer, as if to leave no doubt on the matter, expressly informs his readers that one year and twenty-four days of the reign of the Emperor had expired on the day of his second coronation (*ibid.*, 389, l. 5). Later on, he says that the third year of 'Ālamgīr's reign commenced on Tuesday the 1st of Ramzān [رویت هلال *lit.* appearance of the New Moon], 1070 A.H. (p. 480, l. 8) and the author of the *Maāṣir-i-Ālamgīrī* adopts exactly the same reckoning (p. 30, l. 7).

1 Ramzān, 1068 A.H. corresponded, according to Wüstenfeld, to Sunday, 2nd June, 1658 A.C. (New Style).

#### DEATH.

One pās [pahr or three hours] after sunrise on Friday, 28 Zī-l-qa'da, 1118 A.H. (Maāṣ. 'Ālam., 521, l. 5; Maāṣiru-l-Umarā. I. 609, l. 4).

28 Zī-l-qa'da, 1118 A.H. = 13 Isfandārmaṣ, *Māh-i-Ilāhī*, 51st year of the Julūs. (Kh, Kh. II, 549, l. 11 = E.D. VII, 386.)

"One pahr and three gharis after day-break or about five astronomical hours after sunrise on Friday, twentieth Zī-l-qa'da, 1118." (Siyaru-l-Mutākhkhirīn, Trans. Reprint, 1902, I, 3).

['Twentieth' is obviously an error for 'twenty-eighth.']

28-xi-1118 A.H. was = Thursday, 3rd March, 1707 A.C., New Style (21 February, O.S.), but the '*Maāṣir-i-Ālamgīrī*' explicitly states that Aurangzeb died, as he had always desired, on a Friday. Its author was his secretary and was in attendance on him at the time. The other authorities also give the identical week-day. Manucci, too, states that Aurangzeb died on March 4 [1707] two hours after midday. Storia, Tr. Irvine, IV, 401.

There can be little doubt, therefore, that the correct correspondence is 4 March, 1707 (New Style), 22nd February (Old Style).

## A'ZAM SHĀH.

## ACCESSION.

10 Zī-l-hajja, 1118 A.H. (Kh. Kh. II, 566, four lines from foot; *ib*, 571, l. 18 = E.D. VII, 387, 391).

Wednesday, 'Idu-d-Zuha [Day of Sacrifice], i.e. 10 Zī-l-hajja, 1118. (Siyaru-l-Mutākḥ, Tr. I, 3.)

Saturday, 10 Zī-l-hajja, 1118 A.H. (Tārīkh-i-Muzaffarī, Manuscript, p. 57, l. 12.) The week-day is demonstrably wrong.

10-xii-1118 A.H. was = Tuesday, 15 March, 1707 A.C. (New Style), or 5 March, Old Style (Wüstenfeld).

If the week-day (Wednesday) given in the 'Siyar' is correct, 16th March would be the true equivalent. If 28 Zī-l-qa'da, 1118 was a Friday, the 10th of the following month must have been a Wednesday, supposing, Zī-l-qa'da to have had 30 days in accordance with the book-rule. Manucci asserts that A'zam sat on the throne at 10 o'clock on March 15, and remained seated until midday. Storia, IV, 398-399

## DEATH.

18 Rab'ī I, 1119 A.H. (Maās 'Ālam., 536, three lines from foot; Dānishmand Khān 'Alī, Jangnāma, quoted by Irvine, J.A.S.B., 1893, p. 261; Siyaru-l-Mutākḥ, Trans. I, 7).

18 Rab'ī I, 1119 = 29 Khūrdād (Khāfi Khān, II, 590, l. 9 = E.D. VII, 398).

18-iii-1119 A.H. was = Sunday, 19 June, 1707 A.C., New Style (8th June, Old Style).

Manucci says the battle between the brothers began on 19th June, 1707, and lasted for three days. According to him, A'zam Shāh was killed on the 21st. Storia, Tr. Irvine, IV, 402-403.

## KĀM BAKHSH.

## ACCESSION.

The precise date of his 'accession' is nowhere given. The ceremony of the enthronement probably took place soon after the death of Aurangzeb, i.e. after 28 Zī-l-qa'da, 1118 A.H.

## DEATH.

3 Zī-l-qa'da, two years after the death of Aurangzeb. [سیدم ذی قعدة بعد انتقال حضرت بدو سال] (Maās. 'Ālam, 538, l. 11.)

10 Zī-l-qa'da, 1119 A.H. (Khāfi Khān, II, 421, l. 11.) The year is certainly wrong, 10th (دهم) is perhaps an error for 2nd (دوم)

Wednesday, 3 Zī-l-qa'da 1120 (Siyaru-l-Mutākḥ, Trans I, 13).

3-xi-1120 A.H. was = Monday, 14th January, 1709 (N.S.) (3 January O.S.).

Manucci says the battle between Kām Bakhsh and Bahādur Shāh was fought on 15 January, 1709 (N.S.), that the news reached Pondicherry on 31st January (Thursday), and that "a number of persons from the army arrived there on February 2, of the same year." (Storia, Tr. Irvine, IV. 406.)

Dr. Taylor, following Khāfi Khān, has "circa 1-xi-1119 A.H." but there can be no doubt that the correct year was 1120 A.H.

We possess Kām Bakhsh's coins of 1120 A.H. and there is no reason for believing them to be posthumous, or for ascribing the dates to the carelessness or ignorance of mint-masters. Kām Bakhsh died only towards the end of that year, and the dates are perfectly regular. The apparent confusion has its origin in a blunder of Khāfi Khān's by whom Elphinstone (History, Ed. 1866, p. 676) and other European writers have been misled.

## BAHĀDUR SHĀH SHĀH 'ĀLAM I.

### ACCESSION.

24 Muḥarram, 1119 A.H. (Muḥammad 'Alī, 'Burhānu-l-Futūḥ,' Br. Mus. Or. MS. No. 1884, folio 162 b, quoted by Irvine, J.A.S.B., 1893, p. 261). "Either the last day, i.e. 30th of Muḥarram or the 1st day of Ṣafar [1119 A.H.], for there was a difference of opinion on account of the invisibility [of the new moon]"

در سلج محرم و فرقه صفر المظفر از عدم رویت اختلافی بود \*

(Khāfi Khān, II. 574, l. 13 = E.D. VII. 392. Dowson has not understood the real meaning of the passage.)

Muḥammad Qāsim Lāhorī says the Emperor was enthroned at Pul-i-Shāh Daula, 15 miles from Lāhor, in Muḥarram 1119 A.H. ('Ibratnāma, MS. quoted by Irvine, J.A.S.B., 1893, p. 261.)

Midnight of first Wednesday of Muḥarram 1119. (Siyar-u-l-Mutākh, Trans. I. 5.) [First Wednesday is perhaps an error for last Wednesday.]

In Wüstenfeld's Tables, 1 Muḥarram 1119 A.H. = Monday, 4 April, 1707 A.C. April 6th = 3rd Muḥarram would thus be the first Wednesday of the month, but 27 April = 24 Muḥarram would be the last, and this is exactly the date given in the 'Burhānu-l-Futūḥ'.

### OFFICIAL DATE OF ACCESSION.

Khāfi Khān explicitly states that the Emperor fixed the 18th of Zī-l-ḥajja [1118 A.H.] as the initial date of the acces-

sion, [مجمعدهم ماؤى الحجة كه افاز مال جلوس مقور فرموده بودند] and that the feast of the second year was celebrated on 18 Zī-l-ḥajja 1119, corresponding to 21 Isfandārmaz Māh-i-Ilāhī. (Text, II. 607, l. 9.)

"On the 1st Shawwāl 1119 H. (25th Dec., 1707), he [Bahādur Shāh] issued an order that his reign should commence from the 18th Zū l-ḥajj, 1118 H. (22nd March, 1707), the day that he heard of his father's death." (Dānishmand Khān 'Alī, Bahādurshāh-nāma, entry of the said date, *apud* Irvine, in Official Reckoning of the Reigns of the Later Mughal Emperors, J.A.S.B., 1893, p. 262.)

According to Wüstenfeld's Tables, 18-xii-1118 A.H. was = 23 March, 1707 A.C. New Style. (13 March Old Style.)

#### DEATH.

20 Muḥarram 1124 A.H. (Kāmwar Khān, Tārīkh-i-Salāṭīn-i-Chaghtāyah *apud* Irvine, *loc. cit.*, J.A.S.B., 1893, p. 262. See also E.D. VIII. 19 note.)

End (or last day) of the second decade of Muḥarram 1123 A.H. [اواخر عشر ثانی محرم الحرام.] (Khāfi Khān, II. 683, l. 15) A few lines below (l. 21) on the same page, the same author says it was the شب هشتم, night of the eighth [Muḥarram], which is a manifest error for یستم 'twentieth.' The year given is also wrong. See also E.D. VII. 428.

21 Muḥarram, 1124 A.H. (Tārīkh-i-Ṣrādat Khān in E.D. VII. 556)

19 Muḥarram 1124 A.H. about two hours before night. (Siyar-i-Mutākh, Trans. I. 22.)

20-i-1124 A.H. was = Sunday, 28 February, 1712 A.C. New Style, or 17 February, Old Style.

Here again, a knowledge of the *official* date of the Emperor's accession is indispensable for the correct understanding of the *Julūs* dates on his mintages. Reckoning from the actual day of his enthronement, 30-i-1119 A.H., to that of his death, 20-i-1124, he ruled only for 4 (lunar) years, 11 months and 20 days. In other words, he was on the throne for not quite five years and consequently never entered on the 6th year of his *Julūs*. And yet his coins tell a different tale. P.M.C. No. 2054 is unmistakably of the 6th year and the parenthetical *sic* clearly betrays Mr. Whitehead's puzzlement. I.M.C. 1668 is a rupee of 1124-6 and at least three other coins with identical dates are registered in the Lucknow Museum Catalogue (Nos. 3491, 3498, 3516). B.M.C. 875 also is of the 6th year, but the Hijrī date is 1123. It is hardly necessary to labour the matter. All these dates are perfectly regular and correct on the official theory. The sixth official year of the Emperor's reign began on the 18th of Zī-l-ḥajja, 1123 A.H. B.M.C. 875 must have



therefore been stamped on some one of the last twelve days of 1123, and the other coins may be safely taken to have been uttered in the first three weeks of 1124 A.H.

### 'AZIMU-SH-SHĀN.

#### ACCESSION.

"On the 7th Šāfar 1124 A. H. (15 March, 1712), he [*scil.*, Farrukhsiyar] heard of Bahādur Shāh's death, and on the 13th (21st March), without waiting for further information, he proclaimed his father's accession and caused coin to be stamped and the public prayer or *Khutbah* to be read in his name." (Irvine, *Later Mughals*, J.A.S.B., 1896, p. 172, and the contemporary authorities quoted there; see also *Khāfi Khān*, Text, II. 710, l. 13 = E.D. VII, 438 and *Siyaru-l-Mutākhkhirin*, Trans. I. 47.

### JAHĀNDĀR SHĀH.

#### ACCESSION.

21 Šafar 1124 A.H. (Nūru-d-dīn Multānī, *Jahāndārshāh-nāma* *apud* Irvine, J.A.S.B., 1893, p. 262). *Khāfi Khān* gives practically the same date but puts it into 1123 A.H. He says the battle began on the last day of the second decade [او آخر عشر ثاني] of Šafar, and that Jahān Shāh was killed on the following day (Text, II. 686-7 = E.D. VII. 430-1), when Jahāndār became Emperor.

Dr. Taylor, following Beale's *Biographical Dictionary*, gives 14 Rab'ī I, 1124, but in the *Miftāhu-t-tawārīkh*, Beale says Jahāndār Shāh was crowned at Lāhor toward the end of the month of Šafar [در آخر ماه صفر] 1124 A.H. (Cawnpore Lith. of 1284 A.H., p. 299, l. 9).

21-ii-1124 A. H. was = Wednesday, 30th March, 1712. New Style, or 19 March, Old Style—(Wüstenfeld).

#### OFFICIAL DATE OF ACCESSION.

Jahāndār Shāh is said to have ordered his own reign to begin from the 18th Muharram 1124 A.H., the day of Bahādur Shāh Shāh 'Ālam's death.

امل دفاتر تاریخ جلوس او از تاریخ هیزدهم ماه محرم منہ مذکور کہ  
روز وفات بہادر شاہ است نوشته اند \*

So says Beale in the *Miftāhu-t-tawārīkh* (p. 299, l. 10). I am not aware of any contemporary authority for the statement; but the point is immaterial, as Jahāndār never entered upon the second year of his accession. according to *either* method of reckoning, and no coins of his second year are known.

### DEFEAT.

Wednesday, 13 Zī-l-ḥajja 1123 A.H. [*recte*, 1124] = 19 Dai Māh-i-Ilāhī. (Khāfi Khān) II. 701, l. 16 and also 721, l. 6. E.D. VII. 437 has 16th Zī-l-ḥajja, but the text has clearly 13th in both places.

There is a very long account of the battle based on unpublished contemporary authorities in Mr. Irvine's 'Later Mughals' (J.A.S.B., 1896, p. 198.) He also gives 13th Zī-l-ḥajja 1124. The *Siyaru-l-Mutākhkharīn* has 14th Zī-l-ḥajja. (Tr. I. 53.)

13-xii-1124 A.H. = Wednesday, 11th January, 1713 A.C., N.S.

### DEATH.

16 Muḥarram 1124 A.H. [*recte*, 1125]. (Kh. Kh. II. 734, l. 8 = E.D. VII. 445.)

16 Muḥarram 1125 A.H. (Irvine, *Later Mughals*, J.A.S.B., 1898, pp. 149-150 and the authorities cited there.)

Tuesday, 17 Muḥarram 1125 A.H. (*Siyaru-l-Mutākh*, Trans. I. 62.)

16-i 1125 A.H. corresponded to Sunday, 12-13 February 1713, New Style. (1 February, Old Style.)

### FARRUKHSIYAR.

#### ACCESSION.

29 Ṣafar 1124 A.H. (Muḥammad Ḥusain Ijād, *Farrukhsiyarnāma*, *apud* Irvine, J.A.S.B., 1893, p. 262. See also *Later Mughals*, J.A.S.B., 1896, p. 172 and the authorities quoted there.)

Beginning or first [اول] of Rab'ī I, 1123 A.H. (Kh. Kh. II. 711, l. 10.) The year is wrong, but the date is almost the same, for the first day of Rab'ī I is the very next day to the last or 29th day of Ṣafar. See also E.D. VII. 439.

29-ii-1124 A.H. = Thursday, 7 April, 1712 A.C. New Style.

#### OFFICIAL DATE OF ACCESSION.

"An order was made that the reign of Jahāndār Shāh should be considered as an adverse possession [عهد مخالف] and that the reign of Muḥammad Farrukhsiyar should date from the first of Rab'ū-l-awwal, 1123 A.H. [*recte*, 1124 A.H.]" Khāfi Khān in E.D. VII. 446, Text, II. 737, l. 9.

Kāmwar Khān states that "orders were issued on 9 Jumādī II, 1125 for striking out from the records and treating as non-existent the reign of Jahāndār and dating Farrukhsiyar's own reign from his enthronement at Patna on 29 Ṣafar 1124 A.H. (*Tārīkh-i-Salṭīn-i-Chaghtāyah*, Entry of 9th Jumādā II, *apud* Irvine, J.A.S.B., 1893, p. 262.)

## DEPOSITION.

9 Rab'ī II, 1131 A.H. (Irvine, *Later Mughals*, J.A.S.B., 1904, pp. 342-4, and the manuscript authorities cited there.)

Wednesday, 9 Rab'ī II, 1131 A.H. (Khāfi Khān, Text, II. 807, l. 7 = E.D. VII. 476-8. [Kh. Kh. says the 8th was a Tuesday]. See also *Siyaru-l-Mutākh.* Trans. I. 129-135.)

9-iv-1131 A.H. was = Wednesday, 1 March, 1719, New Style—18 February, Old Style.

Farrukhsiyar's coins of the 8th year are correctly dated, if the official date of accession is borne in mind.

## DEATH.

Night between 8th and 9th Jumādā II, 1131 A.H. (Irvine, *Later Mughals*, J.A.S.B., 1904, p. 350, and the authorities quoted there.)

Khāfi Khān does not give the precise date. He only says that he was put to death about two months after his imprisonment. (Text, II, 819, l. 6 = E.D. VII. 480.)

<sup>9</sup>/<sub>9</sub>-vi-1131 A.H. = Friday-Saturday, 28-29 April, 1719, N.S. or 17-18 April, O.S.

Dr. Taylor has 9-vii-1131, A.H. and Sunday 17-v-1719 A.C. This is a slip. Jumādā II is the *sixth* Muḥammadan month, not the seventh.

## RAF'IU-D-DARAJĀT.

## ACCESSION.

One pās [i.e. *pahr* or watch] and four gharis after sunrise on Wednesday, 9 Rab'ī II = 10 Isfandārmaz *Māh-i-Ilāhī* 1131 A.H. (Khāfi Khān., II. 816, l. 6 = E.D. VII. 479.)

Kāmwar Khān (Tārikh-i-Salāṭin-i-Chaghtāyah) gives the same date. Irvine, J.A.S.B., 1893, p. 262.)

About nine o'clock in the morning of Wednesday [9th] second Rab'ī 1132. [The year is wrong.] (*Siyaru-l-Mutākh.* Trans. I. 136.)

Mr. Irvine gives 28 February 1719, N.S., but if the week-day is correct, and it is given by all the authorities, the true correspondence must be 1 March, 1719, N.S., 18 February, Old Style.

## DEPOSITION.

17 Rajab 1131 A.H. (Kāmwar Khān, *Tārikh-i-Salāṭin-i-Chaghtāyah* *apud* Irvine, J.A.S.B., 1893, p. 262 and *ibid.*, 1904, Extra Number, p. 40.) Khāfi Khān says (Text, II. 830, l. 2) that he reigned for *three* months and ten days. Dowson, however, has, in his abstract translation, *six* months and ten days. This is demonstrably incorrect. The author of the *Siyaru-l-Mutākhkhirīn* also declares that he reigned for three months and some days. (Trans. I. 143.)

17-vii-1131 A.H. = Monday, 6 June, 1719, N.S. or 26 May, O.S.

#### DEATH.

Three days after the accession of his brother Raf'iu-d-daula on 20 Rajab 1131 A.H. i.e. 23 [or 24] Rajab 1131 A.H. (Khāfi-Khān, II. 830 last line = E.D. VII. 482)

24 Rajab 1131 A.H. Wārid, 150a *apud* Irvine, J.A.S.B., 1904, Extra Number, p. 40.

The *Tārīkh-i-Muzaffarī* (MS, p. 84 last line) says he died fifteen days after his brother Rafu-d-daula's accession on Saturday, the 8th, i.e. on 23rd Rajab 1131 A.H.

21 Rajab, Saturday (Siyaru-l-Mutākh. Trans. I. 143)

24-vii-1131 A.H. corresponds to Monday 12 June, 1719, N.S. or 1 June, 1719, O.S.

#### RAF'IU-D-DAULA.

##### ACCESSION.

Saturday, 20 Rajab 1131 = 11 Khūrdād *Māh-i-Ilāhī* (Khāfi Khān, II. 831, l. 4 = E.D. VII. 482). This writer quotes a contemporary chronogram—*تاریخ عیانی* as it is called—of the event,

viz. *شنبه بیستم مه رجب بود*. The Abjad value of the letters of the line is 1131 (300 + 50 + 2 + 5 + 2 + 10 + 60 + 400 + 40 + 40 + 5 + 200 + 3 + 2 + 2 + 6 + 4). The day and the month are at the same time explicitly stated.

19 Rajab 1131 A.H. (Kāmwar Khān quoted by Irvine, J.A.S.B., 1893, p. 263; also J.A.S.B., 1904, Extra Number, p. 40.)

Saturday, 8 Rajab, 1131. (*Tārīkh-i-Muzaffarī*, Manuscript, p. 84, l. 3 from foot), *هشتم* 8th is the usual mistake for *بیستم* 20th.

The week-day given in the chronogram can hardly be wrong. The date also must have been *بیستم* 20th, not *هشتم*. The Abjad equivalent requires it. And yet, 20-vii-1131 A.H. was according to Wüstenfeld, Thursday, 8th June, 1719 A.C. 8-vii-1131 A.H. was *Saturday*. 27th May, 1719 A.C. (N.S.).

#### DEATH.

4th or 5th Zī-l-qa'da, 1131. (Kāmwar Khān quoted by Irvine, J.A.S.B., 1893, p. 263. See also J.A.S.B., 1904, Extra Number, p. 53.) Mr. Irvine says (*ibid.*, 53 note) that Khushhāl Chand, the contemporary author of the *Nādiru-z-zamānī*, gives the 7th, and quotes a couplet in support of his statement.

Khāfi Khān says he died after a reign of three months and some days, but he does not give any precise date (Text, II, 838, three lines from foot; E.D. VII, 485).

Dr. Taylor gives 22-x-1131 A.H. and quotes Khāfi Khān (E.D. VII, 485), but that author does not give any precise date in the passage referred to, and a few lines lower down, he himself states that "Raf'ū-d-daula had been dead nearly a week before the young Prince [Muḥammad Shāh] arrived" at Fathpūr on 11th Zī-l-qa'da, 1131. This would show that the death took place not on 22 Shawwāl, but about 4 Zī-l-qa'da. 4-xi-1131 A.H. = Monday-Tuesday,  $\frac{1}{10}$  September, 1719 (New Style),  $\frac{2}{9}$  September (Old Style).

### NIKŪSIYAR.

#### ACCESSION.

29 Jumādā II, 1131 A.H. (Kh. Kh. Text, II, 825, l. 3 and 827, l. 12.)

29 Jumādā II, 1131 is given also in Kāmwar Khān's *Tār. Salā. Chagh.* and Muḥammad Qāsim's, *'Ibratnāma*, according to Mr. Irvine (J.A.S.B., 1893, p. 263. See *ibid.*, J.A.S.B., 1904, Extra Number, p. 35).

Dr. Taylor has 9th Jumādā II, but this is an error. He has been misled by Dowson, who has 9th in his Translation (E.D. VII, 482), though the Bibl. Ind. text of Khāfi Khān gives 29th clearly at p. 825, and the same date is repeated at p. 827.

29-vi-1131 A.H. = Friday, 19 May, 1719, N.S. or 8 May, O.S.

#### DEPOSITION.

27 Ramzān, 1131. (Kh. Kh. II, 836, six lines from foot. E.D. VII, 484.)

22-27th Ramzān, 1131 (Kāmwar Khān, cited by Irvine, J.A.S.B., 1893, p. 263). But Mr. Irvine gives 27th Ramzān in "Later Mughals." J.A.S.B., 1904, Extra Number, p. 48.

29 Ramzān, 1131 A.H. (Mhd. Qāsim, *'Ibratnāma*, MS. p. 289, and *Tabsaratu-n-Nāzirin*, MS. p. 129, quoted by Irvine, *ibid.*, note 4).

27-ix-1131 A.H. = Sunday, 13 August, 1719, N.S., 2 August, O.S.

#### DEATH.

6 Rajab, 1135 A.H. (*Tārīkh-i-Muḥammadi* (MS.) cited by Irvine, J.A.S.B. 1904, Extra Number, p. 49, note 3.)

6-vii-1135 A.H. = Monday, 12th April, 1723 A.C. (New Style). Mr. Irvine gives 11th March, 1723 as the Julian correspondence, but this is out by a month and due to some slip or oversight.

### MUḤAMMAD SHĀH.

#### ACCESSION.

Saturday, 15 Zī-l-qa'da = 8 Mihr Māh-i-Ilāhī, 1131 A.H. (Khāfi Khān, II, 840, l. 16; E.D. VII, 485). Kāmwar Khān

gives the same date according to Mr. Irvine (J.A.S.B., 1893, p. 263; and also J.A.S.B., 1904, Extra Number, p. 55).

Four astronomical hours on the morning of 15 [Zī-l-qa'da] 1131 A.H. (Siyaru-l-Mutākḥ. Trans. I, 145.)

Tuesday, 15 Zī-l-qa'da, 1131. (Tārīkh-i-Muẓaffarī, Manuscript, p. 85, eight lines from foot.)

According to Wüstenfeld, 15-11-1131 was *Friday*, 30 September, 1719, N.S., 19 September, O.S. If the week-day given by Khāfi Khān is correct, the correct correspondence would be 1 October, N.S. or 20 September O.S.

#### OFFICIAL DATE OF ACCESSION.

"It was settled that the beginning of his reign should date from the deposition of Farrukh Siyar, and should be so entered in the Government records." (Khāfi Khān in E.D. VII, 486; Text, II, 841, four lines from foot.) The same statement is made in the *Mirāt-i-Aḥmadī*. (Manuscript, p. 424, l. 21 and Tārīkh-i-Muẓaffarī, MS. p. 86, l. 14). In the 'Siyaru-l-Mutākḥ-khīrīn,' we read, "it was enacted that to prevent all confusion in the records, the seven or eight months that had elapsed under the short-lived reigns of those three princes, should be omitted entirely, and that they should be comprehended within Muḥammad Shāh's reign, which, of course, was made to commence immediately on Ferok-Siyar's demise" (Trans. I, 146).

Mr. Irvine notes that the reign of Muḥammad Shāh is accordingly "counted usually from the 9th Rab'ī II, 1131 H., but the contemporary authority Kāmwar Khān, gives the first of that month, namely the 1st Rab'ī II, 1131 H. \* \* as the exact reckoning." (J.A.S.B., 1893, p. 263.)

1-iv-1131 = Tuesday, 21 February, 1719, N.S., 10 February, Old Style.

9-iv-1131 = Wednesday, 1 March, 1719, N.S., 18 March, O.S.

#### DEATH.

27 Rab'ī II, 1161 A.H. (Tārīkh-i-Aḥmadshāhī in E.D. VIII, 111; Gulistān-i-Raḥmat, Tr. C. Elliott, 25-26. Siyaru-l-Mutākḥ, Trans. III, 263. Khazāna-i-'Āmīra of Ghulām 'Alī Azād Bilgrāmī, Cawnpore Lith. of A.C. 1900, p. 78, l. 12, and also Maāṣiru-l-Umarā, I, 366, l. 6.)

The Tārīkh-i-Muẓaffarī (MS., p. 186) gives 27 Rab'ī-l-*awwal*, but it is probably a slip.

27-iv-1161 A.H. = Friday, 26 April, 1748, New Style (15 April, O.S.).

The latest *julūs* date that has been observed on this Emperor's coins is 31, though he did not really reign for 30 lunar years. The dating is perfectly correct from the official standpoint. Reckoning from the day of Farrukhsiyar's deposition, he reigned for 30 years (lunar) and 18 days.

## MUHAMMAD IBRAHİM.

## ACCESSION.

11 Zī-l-ḥajja, 1132 A.H. = 20 Mīhr-Māh-i-Ilāhī (*Khāfi Khān*, II, 914, l. 12; *Tārīkh-i-Muzaffarī*, MS. 108, l. 1; *Siyaru-l-Mutākh*, Trans. I, 186).

Mr. Irvine gives "15th Zū'l-Hijjah, 1132 H." and quotes *Kh. Kh.* II, 914 and three other unpublished authorities. He adds that the *Jām-i-Jam*, a modern work, "assigns the enthronement to 28th Zū'l Hijjah, 1132 H." (Later *Mughals*, J.A.S.B., 1908, p. 568.)

Dr. Taylor has 9-xii-1132 H. but this is due to an error of Dowson's who has 9th in his translation of *Khāfi Khān* (E.D. VII, 509), though the *Bibl. Ind.* text has the 11th (بازدم) quite clearly.

11-xii-1132 A.H. was = 14 October, 1720, N.S. or 3 October, O.S.

## DEPOSITION.

Taken prisoner in battle on

14 Muharram, 1133 A.H. (*Kh. Kh.* II, 933, five lines from foot; *Tārīkh-i-Muzaffarī*, MS. 116, l. 11; *Siyar*, Trans. I, 191-3.)

Mr. Irvine has a long account of the battle in his 'Later *Mughals*' based on these and other unpublished authorities and gives the same date. (J.A.S.B., 1908, pp. 575-582.)

14-i-1133 A.H. was Friday, 15 November, 1720 A.C., N.S., 4 November (Old Style). Mr. Irvine's authorities would seem to give 14 Muharram, *Thursday* (14 November, N.S.).

## AHMAD SHAH.

## ACCESSION.

Wednesday, 1 Jumādā I, 1161 A.H. (*Khazāna-i-Āmira*, 78, l. 18 and 90, l. 15.) (This work was composed in 1176 H.)  
Tuesday, 1 Jumādā I, 1161 (*Mirāt-i-Ahmadī*, I, 110, l. 11).

1 Jumādā I. 1161. (*Gulistan-i-Rahmat*, Tr. 26.)

Tuesday, 1 Rab'ī II 1161 (*Tārīkh-i-Muzaffarī*, MS. 188, last line.) [The month is again wrong.]

2 Jumādā I, 1161. (Beale, *Miftāh*, 327, l. 14.)

Fourth day after the death of Muhammad Shāh on 27 Rab'ī II, 1161 A.H. (*Siyaru-l-Mutākh*, Tr. III, 263.) This would be 1 Jumādā I, 1161 A.H.

1-v-1161 A.H. was = *Monday*, 29 April, 1748, N.S. according to Wüstenfeld, or 18 April, O.S. (Gladwin.)

## DEPOSITION.

11 Sha'bān, 1167 A.H. (*Tārīkh-i-Ālamgīr-i-Šāhī* in E.D. VIII. 141.)

Sunday, 10 Sha'bān, 1167. (*Khazāna-i-Āmira*, 52, l. 9, and 90, l. 16; *Maāṣ-i-Umarā* II, 851, l. 3.)

10 Sha'bān, 1167. (*Mirāt-i-Aḥmadī*, I, 110, l. 12; *Siyar*, Tr. III, 339.)

Sunday, 10 Sha'bān, 1167. (*Tārīkh-i-Muẓaffarī*, 230, l. 6.)

Beale says the Emperor was imprisoned towards the end of Jumādā II, and blinded on 10 Sha'bān. According to the *Siyar* he and his mother were blinded seven days after the deposition, that is on the 17th of Sha'bān.

10-viii-1167 was a Sunday, 2 June, 1754, according to Wüstenfeld.

#### DEATH.

2 Sha'bān, 1188 A.H. (Beale, *Miftāḥ*, 335.)

### 'ĀLAMGIR II.

#### ACCESSION.

11 Sha'bān, 1167 A.H. (*Tār. 'Ālamgir-i Ṣānt* in E.D. VIII. 141.)

Sunday, 10 Sha'bān, 1167 is given by the *Khazāna-i-Āmira* (52, l. 9). *Tārīkh-i-Muẓaffarī*. (Manuscript, 243, l. 2, also in E.D. VIII, 323), *Gulistān-i-Raḥmat*, Trans. 50, *Siyar-i-mutākh*, Tr. III, 339, *Miftāḥ-i-tawārīkh*, 340, *Maāṣir-i-Umarā* and *Mirāt-i-Aḥmadī*, Manuscript, 796, l. 1. The last mentioned author adds that orders were issued to the effect that the beginning of the reign was to be reckoned, for official purposes, from the 1st of Sha'bān.

و مبدأ سنین جلوس مبارک از غرة شهر صدر اعتبار نود و محسوب و  
مردوم نمایند \*

*Ibid.*, 796, l. 9.

#### DEATH.

Thursday, 20 Rab'ī II, 1173 A.H. (*'Ibratnāma* of Faqir *Khairu-d-dīn Muḥammad* in E.D. VIII, 243.)

8 Rab'ī II, 1173 (*Gulistān-i-Raḥmat* 57). Thursday, 8 Rab'ī II, 1173 (*Tārīkh-i-Muẓaffarī* (MS.) 276, l. 7; *Maāṣir-i-Umarā*, II, 855, top line.) 7 Rab'ī II of the sixth year of his reign (*Ghulām 'Alī Khān*, *Shāh 'Ālam Nāma*, Bibl. Ind. Text, 93); Thursday, 8 Rab'ī II, 1173. (*Khazāna-i-Āmira*, 54, l. 7.) Beale says it was Thursday, the 8th Rab'ī II, but 18th according to another authority. (*Miftāḥ*, 341, five lines from foot.) The *Mirāt-i-Aḥmadī* also gives 8 Rab'ī II and Thursday. (MS. 935, l. 10, Bombay Lith. I, 111, l. 1.)

Dr. Taylor has 20th, but there can be little doubt that he has been misled by Dowson's translation of the *'Ibratnāma*. The copyist has evidently miswritten بیستم (20th) for هشتم (8th).

According to Wüstenfeld's Tables, 20th Rab'ī II, 1173



A.H. was a Tuesday, but the 8th was a Thursday and corresponded to 29 November, 1759 A.C.

### SHĀH JAHĀN III.

#### ACCESSION.

20 Rab'ī II, 1173 A.H. ('Ibratnāma in E.D. VIII, 243.)  
8 Rab'ī II: 1173. (Gulistān-i-Rahmat, Tr. 57; Tārīkh-i-Muzaffarī, MS. 276, six lines from foot. Khazāna-i-'Āmira, 90, last line. See also *ibid.*, 54, l. 8. Mirāt-i-Āhmadi, I, 111, l. 7.)

The correct date is 8 Rab'ī II. *بیستم* is an error for *هفتم*  
8-iv-1173 = Thursday, 29 November, 1759. (Wüstenfeld).

#### DEPOSITION.

29 Šafar, 1174 A.H. (Tārīkh-i-Ibrāhīm Khān in E.D. 278; Gul. Rahm. Tr. 60; Khazāna-i-'Āmira, 91, l. 6).

29-ii-1174 A.H. was—Friday, 9 October, 1760, A.C.

### SHĀH 'ĀLAM II

#### ACCESSION.

4 Jumādā I, 1173 A.H. (Khazāna-i-'Āmira, 91, l. 1.)

One pās [pahr or watch] and two gharis after sunrise on  
4 Jumādā I, 1172 [*recte*. 1173] A.H. Shāh 'Ālam Nāma, 104-5.)

4 Jumādā I, 1174 [*recte*. 1173]. (Tār. Muḡ., MS., 286, l. 11.)

4 Jumādā I, 1173 (Miftāḥ 343, three lines from foot).

4-v-1173 A.H. was = Monday, 24 December, 1759 A.C.

#### OFFICIAL DATE OF ACCESSION.

"The Secretaries of the Records were commanded to reckon the auspicious accession from the day of the martyrdom of his exalted father, viz 8 Rab'ī II," [1173]. (Tārīkh-i-Muzaffarī (MS.) 286, l. 14.)

There is a very similar statement in the Khazāna-i-'Āmira, 91, l. 3 and Beale's Miftāḥ, 343, last line. Mr. Keene informs us that "he [Shāh 'Ālam] is recorded to have ordered that his reign should be reckoned from the days of his father's martyrdom, and there are farmāns of his Patent Office still forthcoming in confirmation of the record." Fall of the Mughal Empire, Ed. 1887, p. 65.

#### DEPOSITION BY GHULĀM QĀDIR.

27 Shawwāl, 1204 A.H. ('Ibratnāma in E.D. VIII, 247). [The year is wrongly given. 1204 is a manifest error, probably typographical, for 1202.]

Beale (Miftāḥ 361) says the Emperor was imprisoned on 22 Shawwāl, 1202 A.H. and blinded on the 5th of Zī-l-qa'da

of the same year. According to the '*Ibratnāma* (*loc. cit.*, 248), he was blinded on 9th Zi-l-qa'da. Mr. Keene in his '*Fall of the Mughal Empire*' gives the date of deposition as 29th July, 1788 (Ed. 1887, p. 176) and says he has followed the '*Tārīkh-i-Muzaffarī*.' The date is given as 2nd August in the Selections edited by Mr. Seton-Kerr from the Calcutta Gazettes. (I. 263.)

According to Wüstenfeld, 27-x-1202 A.H. corresponded to Saturday, 31 July, 1788 A.H.

#### DEATH.

7 Ramzān, 1221 A.H. *Miftāh*, 375.

7-ix-1221 A.H. was = Tuesday, 18 November, 1806.

#### BIDĀR BAKHT.

##### ACCESSION.

27 Shawwāl, 1204 A.H. [*recte*, 1202 A.H.] '*Ibratnāma* in E.D. VIII. 247.

22 Shawwāl, 1202, *Miftāh*. 361, l. 6.

Dr. Taylor has 27-xi-1202 A.H. = Friday, 29-viii-1788. He has been misled by Beale's Biographical Dictionary (p. 106), where 'Zīqa'ada' is given instead of 'Shawwāl,' which is the *tenth* month.

#### AKBAR II.

##### ACCESSION.

7 Ramzān, 1221 A.H. = 19 November, 1806 A.C. (Beale, *Miftāh*, 373, six lines from foot.)

According to Wüstenfeld, 7-ix-1221 A.H. corresponded to 18th November, not 19th.

##### DEATH.

Friday, 28 Jumādā II, 1253 A.H. = 28 September, 1837 A.C. (*Miftāh*, 394, l. 7).

#### BAHĀDUR SHĀH II.

##### ACCESSION.

28 Jumādā II, 1253 = 28 September, 1837 A.C. (Beale, *Miftāh*, 394, l. 16.)

Dr. Taylor gives 29th September, 1837, but according to Gladwin's Tables (Bengal Revenue Accounts, Ed. 1796), 28 September would seem to be correct.

##### DEPOSITION.

13 Sha'bān, 1274 A.H. = 29 March, 1857 A.C.

According to Gladwin's Tables, 13-viii-1274 A.H. was = 28 March, 1857.

##### DEATH.

14 Jumādā I, 1279 A.H. = Friday, 7 November, 1862 A.C.

## XXII. IMPERIAL STYLE AND TITLES.

The proper names and titles current among Muhammadan nations are both exceedingly numerous and complicated. But the subject has been very fully dealt with by Baron Von Hammer, Monsieur Garcin de Tassy and Sir Thomas Colebrooke. Dr Codrington also has an informing note upon it in his *Manual*. I have therefore deemed it unnecessary to discuss it at any length or go again over the same ground. The curious reader will find almost everything that he wants to know in Sir T. Colebrooke's article (*J.R.A.S.*, 1879, pp. 171-237).

It will suffice to say that of the seven classes of names or titles enumerated in Dr. Codrington's useful and handy volume, the serious student of Mughal coins has little or no concern with four, viz. the *علامت - عنوان* - *the اسم نسب* or *الانساب* and *تخلص*. Those which come within his purview are but three, the *علم* or Muhammadan name, the *كنيت* or patronymic and the *لقب* or cognomen.

The first of these is very briefly and easily disposed of. There are only two '*alams*' in the entire series of emperors and claimants, viz. Muhammad and Ahmad. The latter was borne by only one individual and all the other personages rejoiced in its synonym Muhammad.

The *Kunyats* also are not much more numerous. There are only six or seven in all. *Abūl Fath*, *Abūl Muẓaffar* (or *Abū Zafar*), *Abūn Naṣr*, *Abūl Barakāt*, *Abūl 'Adl* and *Abūl Fauz* (?) exhaust the list, and one or other of the first two was borne by twelve out of the twenty-six emperors and claimants. Of the rest, *Abūn Naṣr* was assumed by two and each of the others found favour only with a single individual. Two of the emperors and seven claimants either assumed no *Kunyats* or they are unrecorded.

It is otherwise with the '*laqabs*'. There are only four cases in which one and the same cognomen' is found to have been adopted by two individuals. Jalālu-d-dīn was the common attributive of Akbar I and Shāh 'Ālam II, Naṣiru d-dīn was shared between the Emperor Humāyūn and the claimant Shujā'. Zahiru-d dīn was assigned to Bābur the empire-builder as well as the puppet Ibrāhīm; Farrukhsiyar and Akbar II betrayed a partiality for Mu'inu-d dīn. With these exceptions, every one who sat or aspired to sit on the throne of the

Great Mogul would appear to have deliberately and of set purpose chosen a title ending in *dīn* which had not been appropriated by any of his predecessors. This fact is not devoid of interest or practical utility. It frequently puts it in our power to assign a doubtful coin to the true owner and when the appropriate *Kunyat* also happens to be displayed in whole or in part, the second coincidence makes assurance doubly sure and enables the abnormal or imperfectly executed issue to be definitely identified.

## BĀBUR.

## FULL STYLE AND TITLES.

*Zahīru-d-dīn Muḥammad Bābur Pādīshāh-i-Ghāzī.*

Memoirs of Bābur, Trans. Leyden and Erskine, 355, 359.

A. S. Beveridge 574.

*Tārīkh-i-Rashīdī*, Trans. Ney Elias and Ross, 173.

*Ṭabaqāt-i-Akbarī*, Lakhnau Lithograph, p. 179. l. 8.

*Badāonī*, Bibl. Ind. Text, I, 337, l. 1; Trans., I, 443.

Abūl Fazl, *Akbar-nāma*, Bibl. Ind. Text, I, 48. l. 22; I, 86, l. 9; Trans. H. Beveridge, I, 145, 223.

The laqab *Zahīru-d-dīn* was given to him *at birth*. Bābur's cousin Mirzā Haidar Dughlāt writes: "They begged his Holiness [*Khwāja Naṣīru-d-dīn 'Ubaidu-llah*, or *Khwāja Aḥrār*] to choose a name for the child and he blessed him with the name of *Zahīru d-dīn Muḥammad*. At that time, the Chaghatāi were very rude and uncultured [*buzurg*], and not refined [*bāzārī*] as they are now; thus they found *Zahīru-d-dīn Muḥammad* difficult to pronounce and for this reason gave him the name of *Bābur*." *Op. cit.*, 173

Abūl Fazl has a very similar statement in the *Akbar-nāma*, Text, I, 87, l. 5; Trans. I, 225.

*Khāfi Khān*, however, says that the Amīrs called him [ملقبٌ <sup>بـ</sup> ساخند] *Zahīru-d-dīn Muḥammad Bābur*, when they placed him on the throne (Bibl. Ind. Text, I, 22, l. 16), but his statement cannot weigh against that of a contemporary.

Bābur himself informs us in his 'Memoirs' that he assumed the title of 'Pādīshāh' towards the end of 913 A.H.

"Up to that date," he writes, "people had styled *Timūr Beg's* descendants *Mirzā*, even when they were ruling. Now I ordered that people should style me *Pādshāh*." *Op. cit.* Trans.

<sup>1</sup> The name itself was not new. It had been formerly borne by Mirzā Abūl-Qāsim Bābur, son of Mirzā Bāisanghār, the grandson of Shāhrukh, the son of the great *Timūr*. He made himself master of *Khurāsān* after murdering his own brother Sultān Muḥammad in A.H. 855 (1452 A.C.), and died at Mashhad in 861 A.H. (1457 A.C.). After his death, *Khurāsān* was taken possession of by Mirzā Abū Sa'id, the grandfather of the Emperor. Beale, *Oriental Biographical Dictionary*, Ed. Keene, s.v.; *Ḥabībū-s-Siyar*, Book IiI, Section iii. 163-171.

A. S. Beveridge, 344; Leyden and Erskine, 233. Humāyūn was born towards the end of this very year on 4th Zi-l-qa'da, and Bābur's daughter, Gulbadan writes as if the birth of an heir was the proximate cause or motive of this 'uplift in her father's style.'

"That same year [913 A.H.], his Majesty was pleased," she says, "to order the Amīrs and the rest of the world to style him emperor (*bādshāh*), for before the birth of the Emperor Humāyūn, he had been named and styled Mirzā Bābar. All kings' sons were called Mirzās. In the year of his Majesty Humāyūn's birth, he styled himself *bādshāh*." (*Humāyūn Nāma*, Trans. A. S. Beveridge, 90; Text, 9, l. 9.) Gulbadan wrote down what she had heard and seen only about 995 A. H.—i.e. more than eighty years after Humāyūn's birth. The order in which the two events, the assumption of the title and the birth of Humāyūn are recorded in Bābur's own Autobiography militates against the supposition. However that may be, there can be no doubt that *Pādishāh* was no part of Bābur's style before 913 A.H.

Abūl Fazl's account clearly implies that the adoption of the titular adjunct was antecedent to and had no causal connection with the birth of the Prince. "The second time," he writes, "the illustrious army proceeded in the month of Jumāda-l-awwal 913 (Sep. 1507) by way of Little Kābul (Khurd Kābul) to the conquest of Hindustan. \* \* \* They crossed by Kūner and Nūrgil and from Kūner, he (Bābar) came on a raft (*jāla*) to the camp and then by way of Bādīj to Kābul. By order of his Majesty, the date of his crossing was engraved on a stone above Bādīj. This wondrous writing still exists. Till this time, the noble descendants of the Lord of Conjunction were called Mirzās. His Majesty ordered that in this inscription, he should be styled *Pādshāh*. On Tuesday, 4 Zi-l-q'ada of this auspicious year (8th March, 1508) occurred in the citadel of Kābul, the fortunate birth of his Majesty Jahānbāni Jannat-āshiyāni (Humāyūn)." *Akbarnāma*. Trans. I, 235-6; Text, I, 92.

The expedition was a failure on account of "differences of opinion among the officers." It was evidently of short duration and Bābur would seem to have been back in Kābul before the birth of his heir. If the title was adopted in the inscription (تاریخ) which Abūl Fazl would appear to have seen, its assumption could have had nothing to do with the birth which took place some months afterwards.

Similarly, we have the very best authority—Bābur's own—for saying that the adjunct 'Ghāzī' was assumed after the battle of Kānhwa. (933 A.H. 1527 A.C.). "After this success" [*scil.* defeat of Rāna Sangā], the Emperor himself tells us, "Ghāzī (victor in a Holy war) was written amongst the

royal titles." *Memoirs*, Trans. A. S. Beveridge, 574; *Leyden and Erskine's Trans.* 367; *Persian Trans.* 214, l. 11.

Gulbadan also says that "he arrayed his forces against Rāna Sangā and, by the Grace of God, obtained a victory and became a *Ghāzī*." به رعنا سگا جنگ صف شده بعنايت الهی فتح کردند [و غازی شدند *Humāyūn Nāma*, Text, 17, l. 14; Trans. 100.

*Firishta* (Briggs, Trans. II, 58; *Lakhnau Lithograph*, I, 209, l. 17) and *Khāfi Khān* (*Bibl. Ind. Text*, I, 61, last but one line), have the same statement. See also *Tārīkh-i-Rashidī*, Trans. Ney Elias and Ross, 402.

Neither of these two points is without interest from the numismatic point of view. Many of this emperor's mintages exhibit no date and it is not easy to predicate any thing as to the time of issue. The above statements furnish useful criteria for fixing the year within certain limits. All coins bearing the title 'Pādishāh' may be confidently said to have been uttered after 913 A. H. None bearing the titular adjunct 'Ghāzī' could have been struck before 13 Jumādā II, 933 A.H. (17th March, 1527).

It will be noticed that the *Kunyat* of this emperor is not given by any of these authors. Perhaps he did not formally assume any.

## HUMĀYŪN.

### FULL STYLE AND TITLES.

*Naṣīru-d-dīn Muḥammad Humāyūn Pādishāh-i-Ghāzī.*

*Tezkereh Al Vākiāt*, or Private Memoirs of the Emperor Humāyūn, Trans. Ch. Stewart, I. 1832, p. 3.

*Badāonī*, *Bibl. Ind. Text*, I. 344, l. 1; Trans. I. 451.

*Akbarnāma*, *Bibl. Ind. Text*, I, 120, l. 11; Trans. I, 283.

*Bādishāhnāma*, *Bibl. Ind. Text*, I, i. 42, l. 11.

There is a passage in the *Akbarnāma* from which it would seem that his *Kunyat* was *ابو النصر* (Text, I, 111, l. 15; Trans.

<sup>1</sup> As the *Kunyat* is not mentioned anywhere else, I give the original passage below. Humāyūn was sent to Kābul after the battle with Rāna Sangā and Abūl Faẓl, in recording the event, writes:—

فرقة عيون السلطنة والخلافة ابو النصر نصير الدين محمد همايون را  
در سه گروهی الورنهم رجب این سال همايون فال [ ۹۳۳ ] رخصت آن  
ممالک فرمودند \*

Elsewhere (*Akbarnāma*, Text, I, 120, l. 20), the full style of the emperor on coming to the throne is given as

نصير الدين محمد همايون پادشاه غازی \*

only, but it is said in a footnote that the *laqab* Naṣīru-d-dīn is preceded by the *Kunyat*, 'Abūn-Naṣr' in one of the Manuscripts.

I, 267), but the author of the *Haft Iqlīm* (written 1002 A.H.) gives him the titles *ابو الغازي محمد هاديون بادشاه*. Manuscript. But, it should be noticed that the *Kunyat* as given on a gold coin in the British Museum which would appear to be unique, can be clearly read as *Abū-l-Muẓaffar* (B.M.C. No. 8). This may be held to settle the question.

## AKBAR.

### FULL STYLE AND TITLES.

*Abūl Fath Jalālu-d-dīn Muḥammad Akbar Pādishāh i-Ghāzī. Ṭabaqāt i-Akbarī*, Lakhnau Lith. 242, l. 8; 343, three lines from foot (contemporary document of 987 A.H.).

*Badāonī*, Bibl. Ind. Text, 271, seven lines from foot; Lowe, II. 279 Elliot-Dowson, V, 532, and Blochmann, *Ā'in*, Trans. I, 186 (contemporary document of 987 A.H.).

The same formula is given without any *Kunyat* in *Tūzūk-i-Jahāngīrī*, Text, 3, l. 7.

*Bādishāhnāma*, Text, 66, l. 7.

*Amal-i-Sālih*, Text, 14, l. 9.

Shaikh 'Abdu-l-Haqq Dehlavī who was born in 958 A.H. (1552 A.C.) and died in 1052 A.H. (1642 A.C.) gives the full title of the Emperor as 'Sultān Abul Fath Jalālu-d-dīn Muḥammad Akbar Bādishāh-i-Ghāzī' in the *Tārīkh-i-Haqqi* which was written in the 40th year of the reign (quoted in Elliot and Dowson, VI, 108. See also *ibid.*, 177).

Here the titular prefix *Sultān* is perhaps unauthorized. The Mughal Emperors did not care to call themselves *Sultāns*. They gave that appellation to their sons, e.g. Sultān Salīm, Sultān Daniāl, Sultān Khusrū, Sultān Khurram. (See Blochmann, Journ. A.S.B. 1871, p. 116, note. Terry says the same. Voyage, Ed. 1777, p. 396.)

In the letter brought by Sayyad Beg Ṣafavī, the ambassador of Shāh Ṭahmāsp of Persiā (969 A.H. VII R.), Akbar is styled *Abūl Fath Jalālu-d-dīn Muḥammad Akbar Pādishāh* (*Akbarnāma*, Text, II, 171, l. 13; Beveridge, Trans. II, 262).

But Abūl Faẓl gives the full name of his hero as *Abūl Muẓaffar Jalālu-d-dīn Muḥammad Akbar Pādishāh* in the *Akbarnāma* (Text, I, 48, l. 21, Trans. I, 145) on which Mr. Beveridge has the following remarks:—

"In the preface of the Persian translation of the *Mahābhārāt* (B.M. No. 5638, p. 8) A. F. calls him Abul fath, and this is

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In the *Farmān* issued after the battle of Kānhwa (933 A.H.), the prince is called only 'Muḥammad Humāyūn Bahādur' (Memoirs of Bābur, Trans. Erskine, 363, 364, Trans. Beveridge, 566, 569), from which it would appear that the laqab 'Naṣīru-d-dīn' was assumed after his accession to the throne.

the name given in the document drawn up by A. F.'s father Mubārak and others and preserved by Badāoni (Blochmann, 185 and Lowe, 279). There too he is styled *Ghāzi*. A. F. also uses the title Abūl-fath in the introductory verses of the *Tafsīr-i-Akbarī* or Great Commentary which he presented to Akbar on his second introduction to him in 982 (1574) \* \* \* On the other hand, Faiẓī (*Nal ū Daman*, Calcutta, ed. 1831, 24) calls Akbar, *Abūl-Muẓaffar Jamālu-d-daula ū Jalālu-d-dīn Muḥammad Akbar*. Perhaps Muẓaffar was the original name and was changed to Fath, after the victories in Bengal and to assimilate it to the name of Akbar's favourite residence, Fath-pūr-Sikrī. The words Muẓaffar and Fath are nearly synonymous, one meaning a Victory or victorious, and the other victorious.<sup>1</sup> \* \* \* It is perhaps rather significant that both A. F. and his brother should omit the title of Ghāzi which was given to the young Akbar after the defeat of Hemū."

Firishta also gives the *Kunyat* as *Abūl Muẓaffar*, Lakhnau Litho. I, 244, l 5.

In an inscription (dated 975 A.H.) on the bridge built by the Khān i-Khānān Mun'im Khān across the Gumti at Jaunpūr, the Emperor is styled *Abūl Ghāzi Jalālu-d dīn Muḥammad Akbar*. Blochmann, Proceedings, A.S.B., 1873, p. 140.

The Farmān addressed to Bairam Khān after his rebellion and reproduced in original in the *Akbarnāma* has the rubric, "Farman of *Jalālu-d-dīn wa-ad-duniyā Akbar Pādishāh-i-Ghāzi*." (Text. II, 106, l 5; Trans. II, 161).

The princess Gulbadan speaks of her illustrious nephew as *Hazrat-i-Pādishāh i 'Ālam panāh i 'Ālamgīr Jalālu-d-dīn Muḥammad Akbar Pādishāh-i-Ghāzi*. *Humāyūn Nāma*. Text, 59, l. 5; Trans. 158.

Jauhar says that the name given to the future Emperor at birth was 'Badru-d-dīn,' and not 'Jalālu-d-dīn.' "This auspicious event, (*scil* the birth of Akbar) happened," he writes, "on the night of the full moon of the month Shābān, 949; in consequence of which His Majesty was pleased to name the child, the Full Moon of Religion (Budr addyn) Muhammad Akber" (*Tezkereh Al Vākiāt*, Trans. C Stewart, 44).

Mr. Vincent Smith insists that, in the matter of the name as well as the date of birth, which is very differently given by all the other contemporary authorities, Jauhar is "true and accurate" and the official version is "the result of deliberate falsification effected for adequate and ascertainable reasons." He even goes so far as to assert that "the proof is so convincing that more could not be required if Abū-l-Faẓl were on his trial for forgery." (Indian Antiquary, November 1915, p. 233.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Beveridge appears to have overlooked the fact that the *Kunyat* is 'Abūl Fath' in the letter addressed by Shāh 'Abbās to Akbar in 969 A.H., long before "the victories in Bengal." It is given in extenso in the *Akbarnāma* and may be found in his own translation (II. 263). The fact is conclusively adverse to the conjecture he has advanced.



See also his Akbar, 14-15 and 464.) The point is hardly within the scope of this work, and must be reserved for discussion elsewhere. It will suffice to say here that there is no occasion or warrant for all this violent and intemperate language. Whatever the name given to Akbar at his birth, it is certain that his official *laqab* was *Jalālu-d-dīn*, and that is all that numismatists are concerned with.<sup>1</sup>

The Jaunpūr coins on the reverses of which he is called "Jalālu-d-din Muḥammad Akbar" and also *Nāṣiru-d-dunyā wa-d-dīn Abūl Muẓaffar*<sup>2</sup> are evidently exceptional issues and must be ranked with the Shīr Shāh rupee on which his *laqab*, about which there is an absolute consensus among the historians, is erroneously or capriciously given as '*Alāu-d-dīn*.' (Hoernle, J.A.S.B., 1893, p. 244, pl. ix, fig. 23).<sup>3</sup>

The circumstances under which the adjunct *Ghāzī* was adopted by Akbar are matter of common knowledge. The discrepancies about details are fully discussed by Mr. Vincent Smith in J.R.A.S., 1916, p. 527 and in 'Akbar,' p. 39. They are not of numismatic interest.

<sup>1</sup> Supposing even that Akbar's original *laqab* was Badru-d-dīn, there would be nothing extraordinary in the substitution of Jalālu-d-dīn at his accession. The author of the *Rauzat-u-s-Safā* explicitly informs us that "Muḥammad bin Sām was named Shamsu-d-dīn and his brother was named Shihābu-d-dīn before he became Sulṭān. But when the latter was established on the throne of empire, he adopted the title [ *مَلِك* ] of 'Sulṭān Ghīāsu-d-dīn' and the *laqab* Shihābu-d-dīn was given to his brother." (See Thomas, *Chronicles*, 137-8.)

At the same time, his own son, Khwāndmīr says that *Shamsu-d-dīn* was the first *laqab* of Sulṭān Ghīāsu-d-dīn and that Shihābu-d-dīn called himself *Mu'izzu-d-dīn* on coming to the throne after the death of his brother (*Habibu-s-Siyar*, Bombay Lithograph, II, iv. 154, last line but one, and 155, l. 3). With such examples before us, it is hardly justifiable to make serious allegations of 'forgery' and 'falsification' of evidence in connection with such trivial alterations in nomenclature.

<sup>2</sup> Mr. Nelson Wright and Mr. Brown read '*Abūl Muẓaffar*,' I.M.C., 198-200; L.M.C., 455-6), Mr. Whitehead *Abūl Faṭḥ*. (P.M.C., Nos. 301-2), But the I.M.C. specimens are of 975 A.H., the P.M.C. of some year in the sixties. The *مظفر* is fairly clear on the former (see Plate). The latter are, unluckily, not illustrated. However that may be, it is clear from the coins that there was some doubt as to the true *kunya*. 'Abūl Faṭḥ' was certainly more common, but 'Abūl Muẓaffar' also was occasionally used, and this is just what we gather from Abūl Faṭḥ and Firīšta. It is perhaps worth while to state that Akbar is styled *ابوالظفر* in the inscription on a Bāoli or stepwell at Khariān in Gujrāt (Panjāb). The date is Ramzān 1013 A.H. (Blochmann, Proc. A.S.B. 1865, p. 66).

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Hoernle writes, "I cannot account for this anomaly, nor can Mr. Rodgers, to whom I referred this coin." (Loc. cit.)

## JAHĀNGIR.

## FULL STYLE AND TITLES.

*Abūl Muẓaffar Nūru-d-dīn Muhammad Jahāngīr Pādīshāh-i-Ġhāzī.*

*Iqbāl-nāma-i-Jahāngīrī.* Bibl Ind. Text, p. 2, l. 13.

Muhammad Hādī's *Dibācha to Tūzūk-i-Jahāngīrī*, Sayyad Ahmad Khān's Edition, p. 2, l. 4.

The contemporary author of the *Farhang-i-Jahāngīrī* calls the Emperor.

*Abūl Muẓaffar wa Abūl-Mansūr Nūru-d-dīn Muhammad Jahāngīr Bādīshāh*, Lakhnau Lith, 1293, A.H. Preface, p. 7, l. 9.

*Nūru-d-dīn Muhammad Jahāngīr Pādīshāh.* *Bādīshāhnāma* I, i. 69. l. 2, and '*Amal-i-Ṣālih*. 11, l. 18.

*Abūl-Muẓaffar Nūru-d-dīn Muhammad Jāhāngīr Pādīshāh*, Khāfi Khān, I 244.

The reasons for calling himself Nūru-d-dīn Jahāngīr are thus stated by the Emperor himself in his 'Memoirs.'

"When I became king, it occurred to me to change my name, because this [*scil* Salīm] resembled that of the Emperor of Rūm [ابن اسم محل اشتباه است بنام قیصر روم]. An inspiration from the hidden world brought it into my mind that inasmuch as the business of kings is the controlling of the world [جهانگیری], I should give myself the name of Jahāngīr (World-seizer) and make my title of honour (*laqab*) Nūru-d-dīn, inasmuch as my sitting on the throne coincided with the rising and shining on the earth of the Great Light (the Sun).<sup>1</sup> I had also heard, in the days when I was prince, from Indian sages [دانایان هند], that after the expiration of the reign and life of King Jalālu-d-dīn Akbar, one named Nūru-d-dīn would be administrator of the affairs of the State. Therefore I gave myself the name and appellation [اسم و لقب] of Nūru-d-dīn Jahāngīr Pādshāh."

*Tūzūk-i-Jahāngīrī*, Trans. Rogers and Beveridge, I, 2-3; Sayyad Ahmad Khān's Edition, p. 1, l. 27 ff.

<sup>1</sup> The name had been borne by two Sultāns of the house of Othmān. Salīm I (r. 1512-1520 A.C.) who poisoned his father and murdered eight of his brothers and has been called 'the greatest monster of that monstrous race.' Salīm II, (r. 1566-1574) was an indolent voluptuary who lost almost his whole fleet and 35,000 men in 1571 A.C. at the battle of Lepanto (Beale, *Oriental Biog. Dict.* Ed. Keene, s.v.).

<sup>2</sup> Jahāngīr himself informs us that he "ascended the royal throne in the capital of Āgra in 38th year of his age when one sidereal hour of Thursday, Jumādī-s-Sāni, 20th A.H. 1014," i.e. one hour after sunrise. *Tūzūk*, Trans. Rogers and Beveridge I, 1.

## DĀWAR BAKHSH.

The 'llqāb' of this unlucky *fainéant* are nowhere mentioned. As he was never crowned in any real sense of the word, it is safe to say that the official style of his 'khuṭba and sikka' was never formulated. His coins display only his birth name, by which he is thrice mentioned in his grandfather's *Tūzūk* (Tr. II, 260, 261, 297; Text, pp. 361, 381). European writers call him almost always by a pet-name which they variously transliterate or transmogrify as 'Sultān Bulloch' (Herbert, 102, 103), *Bolaki* (Tavernier, Tr. Ball. I, 337), *Ballaqui* (Manucci, I, 178), *Bulake* (Peter Mundy, Travels, II, 107, 206), or *Polagi* (Olearius, Voyages and Travels of the Holstein Ambassadors, Ed. 1669, p. 191). A person calling himself Sultān Bulāqi was certainly residing at Kazvīn under the protection of the Shāh of Persia about 1049 A.H. (1639 A.C.) as there is a long account of him in Mirzā Tahir Vahīd's *Tārīkh-i-Shāh 'Abbās-i-Šānī*. (Manuscript in the Mullā Tīrūz Library, Bombay, Rehatsek's Catalogue, IV, 27, p. 88.)

The sobriquet is derived from بلاق 'an ornament worn in the nose.' (Steingass, s.v.).

## SHĀH JAHĀN I.

## FULL STYLE AND TITLES.

*Abūl Muzaḥḥar Shihābu-d-dīn Muḥammad Sāhibqirān-i-gānī Shāh Jahān Pādīshāh-i-Ghāzī.*

*Bādīshāhnāmā*, Bibl. Ind. Text, I, i. 82 five lines from foot; *Ibid.*, I, i. 91, l. 11. See also Elliot and Dowson, VII, 6.

'*Amal-i-Sāliḥ*', Bibl. Ind. Text, 227, l. 22; 228, l. 17.

*Khāfi Khān*, I, 495, l. 6. (He leaves out 'Muhammad').

*Mīrāt-i-Aḥmadī*, Bombay Lith., I, 211, l. 4.

Jahāngīr informs us that this prince was given at birth the name 'Sultān Khurram' because "his advent made the world joyous (*Khurram*.)" *Tūzūk*, Trans. I, 19 and note: Text, 8, l. 25.

We learn from the same unimpeachable source that Sultān Khurram was given the title [ خطاب ] of *Shāh* (which was made a part of his name), [ اسم ], and ordered to be styled 'Shāh Sultān Khurram' in the eleventh year of the reign [1025 A.H. 1616 A.C.]. *Tūzūk*, Trans. I, 338; Text, 167, l. 13.

In the following year [1026 A.H., 1617 A.C.], the title of *Shāh Jahān*, which is supposed by many to have been first assumed by this Emperor only on coming to the throne, was bestowed on his favourite son by Jahāngīr "in reward for his distinguished service" in the Deccan. *Tūzūk*, Trans. I, 395: Text, 195, l. 24.

The author of the *Bādishāhnāma* expressly informs us that the laqab 'Shihābu-d-dīn' was adopted in accordance with the suggestion of Asaf Khān.

و لقب گرامی این بر گزیده الهی \* \* \* پی از لورنگ آرای بلذامس  
بهمن الدوله آصف خان شهاب الدین مقرر گردید \*

Text I, i. 98, l. 2.

Elsewhere, the same contemporary chronicler quotes the very words of a gracious Farmān addressed from Āgra, by the Emperor on the day of his accession, to Asaf Khān who was then in Lāhor. In this also, Shāh Jahān informs his uncle (عمو) that he had determined to assume the laqab Shihābu-d-dīn, which he, Asaf Khān, had proposed.

بدستوری که معروض داشته بودند لقب را شهاب الدین قرار دادیم \*

*Ibid.*, I, i. 114, l. 11.

There can be little doubt that the unique Lāhor rupee in the British Museum (No. 578) on which the laqab of the Emperor is given as ناصر الدین was struck *before* the formal choice of شهاب الدین on the day of the enthronement (8 Jumādā II, 1037 A.H.). We know that the *khutba* was read by Asaf Khān's orders at Lāhor on Sunday the 21st of Jumādā I. 1037 (*iqbāl-nāma*, Text, 303, l. 9), and we may be sure that the inclusion of the birth-name (Khurram) and the absence of the second adjunct *Sāhib qirān* were both due to the fact of the official style and titles of the new emperor having not yet been fixed.

The equally extraordinary Sūrat Rupee in the Panjāb Museum (Cat. No. 1331) with the Kalima and the date on one side and the optative superscription سکه شاه جهان رائج باد is also demonstrably a preaccession issue. Indeed, we know from a contemporary European record that it was an unauthorized product of the Sūrat mint and disowned by Shāh Jahān himself who ordered that all coins should continue to bear the name of his father up to the day of his formal coronation.

The East India Company's factors at Ahmadābād write on the 31st of January, 1628, in the following terms:—

"This citty is in quiett State. Naer Cawn [Nāhar Khān], Mirza Muckey [Makki] Dewan, and Caphalett Cawn [Kifāyat Khān] Buckshee [Bakhshi]. What money is coined in this town bears the Stamp of Shawselim [Shāh Salīm, i.e. Jahāngir] by the Prince's owne order at this being here, till he bee crowned in Dillie so that the quoyning of money in Surratt under his name is affirmed to be done by the Governour there without his order; neither will they passe here without some loose." English Factories in India, 1624-1629. ed. W Foster, 232.

"This reference to the premature coining of money at Surat is interesting," says the editor of the Correspondence

who does not appear to have known that a specimen of these unauthorized mintages has survived the 'tooth of time' and is now lodged beyond the reach of the melter or the vandal in the Lāhor Museum.

It is scarcely necessary to recapitulate the true reasons for the assumption of the additional *laqab* 'Ṣāhibqirān-i-Ṣānī.' It will suffice to refer the curious to my note on the subject in Num. Supp. XXXV, Art. 217.

### MURĀD BAKHSH.

The full style and titles of this claimant are not given by the chroniclers. The author of the *Ālamgīrnāma*, however, states that "he adopted the *laqab* *Murāwwīju-d-dīn*, gave himself the name of Sulṭān, and had the *khutba* read and coins struck in his own name."

خود را مروج الدین ملقب ساختہ اسم سلطنت بر خود بست و خطبہ  
و سکہ بنام خود کرد •

Text, 134, four lines from foot.

The author of the *Mirāt-i-Aḥmadī* has copied this sentence. Bombay Lithograph, Pt. I, 249, l. 6. See also *ibid.*, Pt. I, 248, five lines from foot.

The coins show that his *Kunya* was *Abūl-Muzaffar* and that he retained his birth-name, Muhammad Murād Bakhsh, as his 'regnant' designation.

His full style and titles may be therefore taken to have been

*Abūl Muzāffar Murawwīju-d-dīn Muhammad Murād Bakhsh Pādīshāh-i Ghāzī.*

In the couplet engraved on his Sūrat rupees (B.M.C. 699) he is called *Sikandar-i-sānī*, but this may be only a poet's adulatory flourish, and not a real *laqab*, publicly or officially assumed by the claimant himself. It looks as if it had been dragged in only to rhyme with the شاهجهانی of the preceding line.

### SHUJA'

There is no mention of the style and titles assumed by this rebellious son of Shāh Jahān in any of the published chronicles, but his full name is given as

*Abūn-Naṣr Naṣīru-d-dīn Muhammad Sulṭān Shujā'* in a *Tazkara* or 'Biography of Poets' called *Mirātu-l-Khiyāl*, Bombay Lith., 1324, A.H., p. 143, l. 10.

This work was written in 1102 A.H. (*Ibid.*, 342 and 240) and its author Amīr Sher 'Alī Khān Lodi appears to have been in the prince's service.

It is certain that his *Ālam* or Muhammadan name was

Muhammad. He is frequently styled 'Pādishāhzāda Muhammad Shāh Shujā' Bahādur' in the *Bādishāhnāma* of 'Abdul-Hamid (I, i 97, 392, 408; I, ii. 32, 64, 208).

In his note on 'A New Type of the Coins of Shāh Shujā' (Num. Supp. VI. Art. 44), Mr. R. Burn offered the suggestion that "the top margin of No. 691 [B.M.C.] seems to read نصيرالدين . . . . ., which presents a difficulty." (*Loc. cit.* p. 266). He himself was inclined to decipher the *laqab* occurring in the last line of the new type published by him as ناصرالدين.

In a letter dated 1-8-1920, Mr. R. B. Whitehead wrote to me: "Four rupees of Shah Shujā' have been found in the Bihar and Orissa Province. In a recent letter you told me that for the first time you had discovered for certain that Shāh Shujā's *laqab* and *Kuniyat* were Nasiru-d-din and Abu'l Nasr. \* \* \* One of the recently discovered Patna specimens contains the top margin unmistakably as نصيرالدين محمد and also shows most of the left margin, but to my great surprise it does not contain the mint. All I can see is الله ابو لقوا. Can this read *Kuniyat Abū'l Qavi*? The inscription is most unusual. I wish you could help me with it." I venture to suggest that the true reading of the left margin is, probably پتنه ابوالقوز. The patronymic is not *Abū'l-qavī*, but probably *Abūl Fauz*. *عبد القوي* is one of the hundred and one names of the Divine Being which are daily recited by devout Moslems in their devotions (Codrington, Manual, 41; Hughes, Diet. of Islam, p. 141), and it would be blasphemous for a Moslem to call himself 'Father of the Very Strong One or Allah,' though *عبد القوي* 'Slave of the Very Strong One' would be perfectly proper. A portion only of the preceding word has come on the coin. Mr. Whitehead reads it as كنيه. If so, it is most unusual and unprecedented. I submit that there is no necessity or warrant for any such assumption, and that we have here the name of the mint-town پتنه in the left margin. *ابوالقوز* signifies 'Father of authority or power.'

## AURANGZEB.

### FULL STYLE AND TITLES.

*Abūl Muzaffar Muḥīyū-d-dīn Muhammad Aurangzeb Bahādur 'Ālamgīr Pādishāh-i-Ġhāzī.*

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I was at first inclined to think that the patronymic was ابو الفضل but more careful examination of the rubbings sent to me by Mr. Whitehead shows that the letter following the قى is a 'wāw,' and I am almost sure that the correct reading is ابو القوز or ابوالقوز.

'*Ālamgīrnāma*, Bibl. Ind. Text, 25, eight lines from foot, and 367, l. 5.

*Maāsir-i-Ālamgīrī*, Bibl. Ind. Text, p. 23, two lines from foot.

But the *Kunyat* is given as ابو المظفر, not ابو الظفر by *Khāfi Khān*, Bibl. Ind. Text, II, 77, l. 3. The word بادشاہ is left out in the Calcutta text of the *Muntakhabu-l-Lubāb*, but Dowson has it in his English version. ED. VII, 2.

The reason for the assumption of the regnant title '*Ālamgīr*' is thus stated by *Khāfi Khān*.

"On the 10th of Ramaẓān [1068 A.H.], Aurangzeb marched from Samūgarh [where Dārā had been defeated] for Āgra, and encamped outside the city. There he received from his father a consolatory letter written in his own hand. Next day, Kudsiya Pādshāh Begam, by command of her father, came out to her brother, and spake to him some words of kindness and reproach. \* \* \* The answer she received was contrary to what she had wished, and she returned. The Emperor then wrote another admonitory letter, and with a sword which bore upon it the auspicious name '*Ālamgīr* (world-conqueror), he sent it with kind messages by one of his personal attendants to Aurangzeb. The word *Ālamgīr* immediately attracted notice. It was deemed a good omen, and called forth congratulations."

*Muntakhabu-l-Lubāb* in Elliot and Dowson, VII, 225-6; Bibl. Ind. Text, II, 31-2.

There is in the '*Ālamgīrnāma* (Text, 112-113) a much more lengthy statement to the same effect in its author's characteristically turgid and magniloquent style. See also *Maāsir-i-Ālamgīrī*, Text. 7, last line.

Manucci informs us that the Mughal Emperors were in the habit of giving special names to "their swords and shields, their finest horses, their elephants and their heavy artillery," and that the '*Catarre*' or sabre which Aurangzeb usually carried in his hand was called *Alamguir*." (Storia, I Tr. Irvine, II, 358-9)

The title '*Bahādur*' had been specially bestowed by Shāh

↑ This seems to be one of those Pan-Asiatic beliefs or superstitions which arrest the attention of the anthropologist. There is a curious parallel in Forbes' *Rās-Mālā*. When Vishaldev Chauhān resolved to start on a *Digvijaya* or 'world-conquest,' he "gave the order to all the ministers and sent for Keerpāl. From Sambhur he came to the city of Ujmeer. On his arrival he touched the feet of the king; he placed a sword before him as an offering \* \* \*. The raja bound it on his loins; the skilful in vaticination pronounced the omen to be good. The raja said, 'As this omen has been granted to me I will draw my sword in all the nine divisions of the earth; the whole world I will subdue; I will make tributary rajas, be they as firm as Meruo.'" (*Op. cit.* Reprint, 1878, p. 72.)

Aurangzeb's *Kunyat* is given as ابوالمظفر and ابو المظفر not only in the histories, but in coins and inscriptions.

Janān on Aurangzeb for the coolness and daring he had displayed in standing his ground against a *mast* elephant at the age of fifteen. The matter has been discussed at some length in another note, as the adjunct occurs on almost all his coins of the Muhīyū-d-dīn or non-couplet type.

### MUHAMMAD A'ZAM.

He was born in 1064 A.H. and Muhammad A'zam was his birth-name (Khāfi Khān, I, 728, l. 8). His full style and titles are not given in the chronicles which have been published, but it would appear from his coins that he adopted as his regnant designation the title 'A'zam Shāh' which had been given to him by Aurangzeb. Muhammad Sāqī, the author of the *Maāsir-i-Ālamgīrī* says that this prince obtained in 1117 A.H., i.e. the fiftieth year of the reign of Aurangzeb—permission to adopt the *Kunyat* Abūl-Fayyāz (Text, p. 514, l. 8).

"As that Leader of the Righteous ones, Shaikh 'Abdu-l-Laṭīf—may his honoured grave be hallowed—had been permitted [مجاز بودند] to attach the *Kunyat* Abūl-Fayyāz to his name, Shāh 'Alī Jah [i.e. A'zam Shāh] received kind and gracious instructions [مسترشد شدند] to adopt that *Kunyat* himself [باین کنیت مکنی باشند]. Text, p. 514, l. 8.

But this occurred before the death of Aurangzeb, and it does not follow that *Abūl Fayyāz* was adopted as the *official* patronymic when the prince set up a claim to the imperial throne. It is possible that he retained it from some superstitious belief in its being fortunate or of good omen, but he may have also changed it for some other.

### KĀM BAKHSH.

His birth name was Muḥammad Kām Bakhsh.

*Maāsir-i-Ālamgīrī*, 60, l. 8; *Ālamgīrnāma*, 1031.

Khāfi Khān says, "he gave himself the لقب of *Dīnpanāh* in the khutba" [خود را در خطبه ملقب بدین پناه گردانیده] and he also quotes the couplet which was ordered to be stamped on his coins. (Text, II, 570, l. 4.)

It would appear from several other passages that Kām Bakhsh was generally spoken of as پادشاه دین پناه or حضرت دین پناه only by his courtiers. (*Ibid.*, II, 610, five lines from foot; 611, eight lines from foot; 612, seven lines from foot; 613, four lines from foot; 614, two lines from foot.)



## BAHĀDUR SHĀH, SHĀH 'ĀLAM I.

## FULL STYLE AND TITLES.

*Abūn-Naṣr Quṭbu-d-dīn Shāh 'Ālam Bahādur Pādīshāh-i-  
Ghāzī*

*Maāsir-i-Ālamgīrī*, Text, 68. l. 8.

Khāfi Khān gives the *laqab* as Quṭbu-d-dīn. (Text, II, 644, four lines from foot), but the *Kunyat* is not mentioned anywhere in his pages.

In the *Mirāt-i-Ahmadī*—of which the author states that he was eight years old when Bahādur Shāh marched against Kām Baksh (Text, Pt. i, 404, line 6), the full name is given thus:—

*Abūn-Naṣr Quṭbu-d-dīn Muhammad Mu'azzam Shāh 'Ālam Bahādur Shāh Pādīshāh-i-  
Ghāzī* (p. 400, top line; see also *Ib.*, p. 107, last line).

The compiler of the *Haḍīqatu-l-Aqālīm* gives the *Kunyat* as ابوالمظفر (Lakhnau lithograph. 127, l. 8), but he wrote after 1190 A.H. and his statement on such a subject is of very small value, especially when it is in conflict with that of the author of the *Maāsir*—who had been for many years in the service of Aurangzeb, and was the Munshi or secretary of Ināyat-ullah Khān, Bahādur Shāh's Wazīr.

Bahādur Shāh. Shāh 'Ālam's original or birth-name was 'Muhammad Mu'azzam.' It was given to him by Shāh Jahān (*Bādīshāhnāma*. Text, II, 343, l. 10. See also *Ibid.* II, 411, 626, 633).

The author of the *Maāsir-i-Ālamgīrī* explicitly says that Aurangzeb bestowed upon him the title of *Shāh 'Ālam Bahādur* on the 17th of Sha'bān, 1086 A.H. [XIX RY]. Text, 153, l. 4.

Khāfi Khān informs us that in the 43rd year of Aurangzeb's reign, "the title of 'Bahādur Shāh' was given to the Prince Muhammad Mu'azzam, who had been [hitherto] called 'Shāh 'Ālam,' and he was sent to Akbarābād with full powers to chastise the rebels of that district "

پادشاه زاده محمد معظم را که مخدوم پادشاه عالم بود به بهادر شاه  
مقابله ساختن برای بندوبست مسخر الحاکمات اکبر آباد و تزیین مفسدان آن  
ضلع باستقلال نام مرخص ساختند \*

Text II, 443, five lines from foot.

There is apparently, a discrepancy between this statement and that of the author of the *Maāsir-i-Ālamgīrī*. Khāfi Khān is not always accurate or reliable, but I understand him to mean that the title *now* bestowed was that of Bahādur Shāh.

He had been before called only Shāh 'Ālam Bahādur.<sup>1</sup> He was now permitted to add *Shāh* after 'Bahādur.'

### 'AZĪMU-SH-SHĀN.

According to the '*Ālamgīrnāma* he was named 'Sultān 'Azīmu-d-dīn' by Aurangzeb who heard of his birth on 8 Jumādā II, 1075 A.H. Text, 874, ten lines from foot.

The *Maāsir-i-Ālamgīrī* gives his birth-name as 'Sultān Muhammad 'Azīm' (Text, 123, l. 14 and 153, l. 10), or 'Shāh-zāda 'Azīmu-d-dīn,' *Ibid.*, 203, l. 14). Khāfi Khān has 'Muhammad 'Azīm.' Text, II, 266, 332. 'Azīmu-sh-Shān Bahādur' was the title bestowed upon him by his father Bahādur Shāh Shāh 'Ālam I, (Khāfi Khān II, 599). The *Mirāt-i-Ahmadi* calls him Muhammad 'Azīmu-d-dīn (Pt. I, 108, l. 12), Manucci speaks of him as 'Sultan Azimuddin.' (Storia, Tr. Irvine, II, 304, 323).

### JAHĀNDĀR SHĀH.

#### FULL STYLE AND TITLES.

Nūru-d-dīn Fārūqī, the contemporary author of the *Jahān-dār-nāma* (composed between 1127 and 1132 A.H.) gives his full name as

*Abūl Fath Muhammad Mu'izzu-d-dīn Jahāndār Shāh* (quoted by Irvine, Later Mughals, J.A.S.B., 1896, p. 160). He is called 'Abūl Fath Mu'izzu-d-dīn Jahāndār Shāh Pādishāh-i-Ghāzi' in *Mirāt-i-Ahmadi*, I, 108, l. 7 and 417, l. 11. Aurangzeb gave him at birth the name of 'Sultān Mu'izzu-d-dīn.' '*Ālamgīrnāma*, 614, four lines from foot.

According to the *Maāsir-i-Ālamgīrī* the birth-name was Sultān Muhammad Mu'izzu-d-dīn' p. 35 l. 7.

The title 'Jahāndār Shāh' was not, like 'Jahāngīr' or 'Ālamgīr,' a regnant designation assumed, for the first time, only on coming to the throne. It had been really bestowed upon him by his father, soon after the latter's accession. [1119 A.H.] "And Muhammad Mu'izzu-d-dīn, the largest star of the Sultanate was entitled [ *مطابق* ] 'Jahāndār Shāh Bahādur,' and Muhammad 'Azīm obtained the honorific desig-

<sup>1</sup> "The Kings of Dihli before Bābar styled themselves Sultans both before and after the downfall of the Khalifas of Baghdād who by the whole Muhammadan world were looked upon as the fountain of all honours and titles. The princes had titles as Khān Khānān, Khān Jahān, Ulugh Khān, Ikit Khān, Bārbak, etc; \* \* with Bābar, the code was altered. He and his successors styled themselves Pādishāh, and the lower title of Sultan was given to the Princes, while the sons of princes were styled *Shāhzādah*. A few princes received for meritorious services the title of *Shāh*, as Khurram and Muhammad Mu'azzam." Blochmann in J.A.S.B., 1871, p. 116 note:

nation [ ملقب ] of 'Azīmu-sh-shān Bahādur' and 'Raf'īu-l-Qadr' got the appellation [ خطاب ] of 'Raf'īu-sh-shān Bahādur' and Khujista-Akhtar was named [ مخاطب ] 'Jahānshāh Bahādur' (Khāfi Khān, Text, 599, l. 6).

### FARRUKHSIYAR.

#### FULL STYLE AND TITLES.

*Abūl Muzaḥḥar M'ūīnu-d-dīn Muhammad Farrukhsiyar Pādishāh.*

*Tārīkh-i-Muhammādī* of Mirzā Muhammad Hārisī (composed circa 1163 A.H.) cited by Irvine, *Later Mughals*, in J.A.S.B. 1904, p. 356.

*Mirāt-i-Aḥmādī*. Bombay Lith. Pt. i, p. 108, l. 11 and p. 420, top line.

He is called 'M'ūīnu-d-dīn Muhammad Farrukhsiyar' in Beale's *Miftāhu-t-Tawārīkh*, p. 300 last line and Wārid's *Mirāt-i-Wāridāt* (MS.), 148a, *apud* Irvine, *Loc. cit.* 356.

Mr. Irvine says (*Ibid.*) that he is styled *Jalālu-d-dīn* Muhammad Farrukhsiyar by the authors of the *Tārīkh-i-Muzaḥḥarī* (p. 130) and the *Jām-i-Jam*, but the former was composed only about 1800 A.C. and the latter nearly forty years later (Elliot-Dowson, VIII, 316, 431). Their statements cannot be accepted in preference to those of the earlier contemporaneous authors who agree in giving the laqab as *M'ūīnu-d-dīn*.

On the round seal of the Emperor reproduced in Mr. Irvine's article from a *Farmān* dated 5 Rab'ī I of the 4th year, his titles are thus emblazoned: "Abūl Muzaḥḥar M'ūīnu-d-dīn Muhammad Farrukhsiyar-i 'Azīmu-sh-shān 'Alim, Akbar-i Sāni, Wālā Shān." On the square seal, the words are somewhat differently arranged and the title *Bādishāh-i-Ghāzī* is added. (*Loc. cit.* 358-9.)

### RAF'IU-D-DARAJĀT.

#### FULL STYLE AND TITLES.

*Shamsu-d-dīn Abūl Barakāt Raf'īu-d-darajāt*. Khāfi Khān II, 816, l. 8.

Beale adds 'Muhammad' after 'Shamsu-d-dīn.'

*Miftāhu-t-Tawārīkh*, 303.

The *Tārīkh-i-Muzaḥḥarī* also gives the laqab as Shamsu-d-dīn. Manuscript, p. 84, l. 4.

Mirzā Muhammad Hārisī calls him Abūl-barakāt Sultān Shamsu-d-dīn Muhammad Raf'īu-d-darajāt Bādishāh-i-Ghāzī. *Tazkira*, MS. p. 470, quoted by Irvine, J.A.S.B., 1904, Extra number, pp. 28, 41.

## RAF'IU-D-DAULA.

The full style and titles of this Emperor are nowhere given.

Khāfi Khan merely says that he was given the لقب of *Shāh Jahān-i-Sānī* on his accession. Bibl. Ind. Text, II, 831, ll 1, 6. So also the *Mirāt-i-Ahmadi*, I, 109. Beale calls him *Shamsu-d-dīn Raf'iu-d-daula*, and adds that he was styled [ موسوم ] *Shāh Jahān-i-Sānī* (*Miftāh*, 304, l 10), but Mr. Irvine does not seem to have found any authority for the laqab 'Shamsu-d dīn' in any of the contemporary chronicles which were accessible to him. J.A.S.B., 1904, Extra Number, p. 54.

## NIKŪSIYAR.

Of this claimant's style and titles nothing is known.

## MUHAMMAD SHĀH.

## FULL STYLE AND TITLES.

*Abūl Muẓaffar Nāsiru-d-dīn Muḥammad Shāh Pādishāh-i-Ghāzī.*

*Khāfi Khān*, I, 2, l. 9; II, 841, l. 3; 850, l. 16; 903, l. 4; 927, l. 9; 933, l. 6 = ED. VII, 485.

*Mirāt-i-Ahmadi* I, 108, l. 14;

It will be seen that both these authors assign to this emperor the *Kunyat* 'Abūl Muẓaffar,' but it is given as *Abūl Fath* by several other writers, e.g.

*Tārīkh-i-Hindī* of Rustam 'Alī (written 1154 A.H.) (1741-2 A.C.) *apud* Elliot and Dowson, VIII, 42.

*Tārīkh-i-Manāzil-i-Futūh* of Muḥammad J'afar Shāmlū, *apud* *Ibid.*, VIII, 144.

*Tārīkh-i-Muẓaffarī*, Manuscript, p 85, ten lines from foot.

*Siyaru-l-Mutākhkhirīn*, Trans. (Reprint). I, 146 note.

*Miftāhu-l-Tawārīkh*, Kānpūr Lith. 306, l. 7.

The explanation of this discrepancy is to be found in Ghulām 'Alī Khān's *Muqaddama-i-Shāh 'Ālam Nāma*. This chronicler states that "on the 3rd Jumādā II, 1134 A.H. (20 March, 1722 A.C.), the style was changed from *Abūl Fath* to *Abūl Muẓaffar*." (Quoted by Irvine, *Later Mughals*, J.A.S.B., 1904, p. 56 note). It is possible to cite the testimony of another writer in confirmation of the statement.

The author of the *Siyaru-l-Mutākhkhirīn* also has explicitly recorded the alteration. We read: "On the next Sunday, being the third of the month Djemady the second, of the same year [1134 A.H.], the Nowroz or New Year's day was celebrated at Court with the usual ceremonies; and the Emperor's title which had been hitherto that of the *Master of*

*Succes* [ابوالفتح] was now changed into that of the *Father of Victory* [ابوالمظفر] and the *Succourer of Religion* [ناصر الدين] Trans. I, 236-7.

It would appear that Khāfi Khān has noticed only the later title which was in vogue when he completed his work<sup>1</sup>, and altogether ignored the earlier one.

The other writers would seem to have recorded only the *Kunyat* assumed at the accession and been ignorant of the subsequent alteration.

In an article in Num. Supp. XII, a *Dāru-s-Surūr-i-Burhānpūr* rupee of *Sanah-i-'Ahd*, but without any vestige of the Hijri date was described by Mr. H. Nelson Wright. The legend on the obverse was read as

سکه مبارک بادشاه غازي فضل الدين ابو الفتح \*

Mr. M. A. Saboor of the Nāgpūr Museum, where the coin is lodged, was good enough to furnish me with a rubbing and a plaster-cast of this rare issue, and I venture to suggest that the correct reading of the *laqab* is ناصر الدين and that the rupee displays the style and titles assumed by Muhammad Shāh immediately after his accession. As the coin was uttered in the first year (1131-32 A.H.), it very properly shows the earlier type of *Kunyat* ابو الفتح, which was altered only on the Nauroz festival in 1134 A.H. (20th March, 1722 A.C.).

I have, in my possession, an original *Farmān* of Muḥammad Shāh conferring the *Chaudharāi* of the Qasba of Navsāri in the Pārchol *pargana* of the Sarkār of Sūrāt on Khūrshēd the son of Tahmūr, Pārsi. It has a seal at the top, in the customary Mughal style, with the Emperor's name in a central circle and those of his ancestors up to Tamerlane (12 in number) in smaller circles round about. I reproduce the full style and titles of the Emperor just as they are engraved in the inner circle :—

۱۱۳۳ محمد جهان شاه بهادر

بادشاه غاز ابن ز

صاحب قرون ثا

ش—————ش

ابو الفتح ناصر الدين سنة ۳

It will be seen that the date on the Seal is 1133 [A.H.], that the regnal year is the 3rd and that the *Kunyat* is *Abūl*

<sup>1</sup> This appears to have been done in the 14th year of the Emperor's reign. He mentions some events which occurred in that year, Text, I. 2 and II. 973.

*Fath*. The substitution of 'Abūl-Muzaffar' came several months later. This absolutely settles the matter. We have in this *Farmān* much better evidence than that of the author of the *Shāh 'Ālam Nāma*, who wrote only after 1788 A.C. (Elliot and Dowson, VIII, 393).

## MUHAMMAD IBRAHIM.

### FULL STYLE AND TITLES.

*Abūl Fath Zahiru-d-dīn Muhammad Ibrāhīm.*

*Khāfi Khān*, Text, II, 913, l. 13 = Elliot and Dowson, VII, 509.

*Tārīkh-i-Muzaffarī*, Manuscript, p. 108, l. 3.

*Siyaru l-Mutākhkhirīn*, Trans. I, 186.

Mr. Irvine has the same. J.A.S.B., 1908, p. 567.

## AHMAD SHAH.

### FULL STYLE AND TITLES.

*Abūn-nasr Mujāhidu-d-dīn Ahmad Shāh Bahādur Pādishāh-i-Ghāzī.*

*Mirāt-i-Ahmadi*, I, 8, last line, 110, l. 10.

Beale inserts *Muhammad* between *Mujāhidu-d-dīn* and *Abūn-Nasr*; *Miftāh*, 327, l. 12. This must be an error. The *Tārīkh-i-Muzaffarī* has *Abūn-Nasr Mujāhidu-d-dīn Ahmad Shāh*, MS. p. 188, six lines from foot. The author of the '*Tārīkh Ahmad Shāh*' says he took the title of *Mujāhidu-d-dīn Ahmad Shāh-i-Ghāzī* (quoted in Elliot and Dowson, VIII, 112).

*Khāfi Khān* says that his mother was a daughter of Farrukh-i-yar, and that he was given at birth the name of 'Ahmad Shāh' (Text, II, 973, l. 15 = Elliot and Dowson, VII, 531). As *Khāfi Khān*'s chronicle does not extend beyond the 14th year of the reign of Muhammad Shāh, and as he does not seem to have been alive at the death of the latter, it may be safely said that 'Ahmad Shāh' was not a new title or designation assumed only on coming to the throne. It was the name by which he had been known in the days of his princehood and which was retained without alteration as the Imperial title.

## 'ĀLAMGIR II.

### FULL STYLE AND TITLES.

*Abūl-Adl 'Azīzu-d-dīn Muhammad 'Ālamgīr-i-Sānī Pādīshāh-i-Ghāzī.*

*Tārīkh-i-'Ālamgīr-i-Sānī* quoted in Elliot and Dowson, VIII, 141.

*Mirāt-i-Aḥmadī*, I, 14, l. 10; 110 last line.

*Miftāḥu-t-tawārīkh*, 340 (*Abūl 'Adl* is left out).

The author of the *Shāh 'Ālam Nāma* calls him *Abūl 'Adl 'Azizu-d-dīn 'Ālamgīr-i-Sānī*, *Bibl. Ind. Text*, p. 39, nine lines from foot.

He is called '*Azizu-d-din Muhammad*' in the *Hadīqatu-l-Aqālīm*, p. 136.

On some couplet rupees struck at Muhammadābād-Banāras in the first year of this Emperor, the *Kunyat* seems to be *A'zu-d-dīn*, and has been so deciphered by Mr. Nelson Wright as well as Mr. Whitehead (*I.M.C.*, III, 2228; *P.M.C.*, 2766.) This is most probably due to some error or misunder-

standing on the part of the die-cutter. *A'zu-d-dīn* [ *امز الدين* ] was the name of this Emperor's elder brother. They were both sons of *Mu'izzu-d-dīn* (*Jahāndār Shāh*) and the names of both occur on the same page in the *Maāsir-i-'Ālamgīrī*. (*Text*, 345, l. 8). A third son of Prince *Mu'izzu-d-din* called *مزالدين* is mentioned by the same writer in his chronicle of the 39th year (p. 365, five lines from foot). *A'zu-d-dīn* was the eldest, and his name occurs at least twice in *Khāfi Khān's* account of the reign of *Bahādur Shāh Shāh 'Ālam I* (*Elliot and Dowson*, VII, 392, 393) and twice in that of *Jahāndār*. (*Ibid*, VII, 434, 436.) In the chronicle of *Farrukhsiyar's* reign, we are informed that "*A'zu-d-dīn* son of *Jahāndār Shāh*, after the flight of his father from the field of battle, hid himself in *Agra*, but he was discovered and taken," and that he and "two other princes, *Humāyūn Bakht* and *Wālā Tabār* were deprived of sight." (*Ibid*. VII, 448; *Text*, II, 740, l. 14. See also *Blochmann*, *Proc. A.S.B.*, 1871, p. 126.) According to Mr. *Irvine*, *Jahāndār Shāh* had three sons:

(1) *A'zu-d-dīn*, who was born before 1103 A.H., blinded on 6th *Muḥarram* 1126 (?) A.H. and died at *Dehli* on 8 *Zī-l-hajja*, 1157 A.H.

(2) *'Izzu-d-dīn* who was also alive in 1103 A.H. and died in confinement at *Delhi* on 8 *Rab'ī II*, 1151 A.H. and

(3) *'Azizu-d-dīn* who was born at *Multān* in 1099 A.H., his mother being *Anūp Bāi*. (Later *Mughals*, *J.A.S.B.*, 1896, p. 209 citing the *Tārīkh-i-Muhammādī* and other original authorities.)

There can be no doubt that the true *laqab* of '*Ālamgīr II*' was *عز الدين* and that the *امز الدين* of the coins is an error.

### SHĀH JAHAN III.

His full style and titles are nowhere given. All that is known is that he was called [ *ملقب* ] *Shāh Jahān*.

His original name was '*Muhtu-l-Millat*,' and he was the son

of Muhiu-s-Sunnat, son of Kām Bakhsh. '*Ibratnāma* of Faqīr Khairu-d-dīn Muhammad in ED. VIII. 243.

Shāh 'Ālam Nāma, Bibl. Ind. Text, 95, five lines from foot.

The author of the *Chihār Gulshan* calls him *Muhiu-d-dīn Shāh Jahān the Second*; Sarkār, 'India of Aurangzeb.' Introd. xv).

As this author completed the work in 1173 A.H., 1759 A.C., the very year in which Shāh Jahān was placed on the throne (E.D. VIII, 255), he might be supposed to know what he was writing about. It is possible that the *laqab* 'Muhiu-d-dīn' was actually chosen on account of its resemblance to his birth-name. But it is at least equally likely that the two names have been confounded by the writer—Rāi Chatar Mān Kāyath—who is not particularly remarkable for precision of statement, and whose work was available to the translator only in a single transcript crowded with errors.

Musalman authors never speak of this puppet as Shāh Jahān the *third* [ثالث]. They merely say that the لقب given to him was شاه جهان; *Mirāt-i-Ahmadī* I, 111, l. 6; *Khazāna-i-Āmīra*, 90, last line.

## SHĀH 'ĀLAM II.

### FULL STYLE AND TITLES.

*Abūl Muẓaffar Jalālu-d-dīn Shāh 'Ālam Pādishāh-i-Ghāzī. Miṣṭāhu-t-tawārikh*, 343, l. 14.

In the *Tārikh-i-Muẓaffarī* (Manuscript, p. 286), he is called 'Abūl Muẓaffar Jalālu-d-dīn 'Alī Gohar Shāh 'Ālam-i-Sānt Bādishāh.'

At a meeting of the Asiatic Society of Bengal, held in January 1870, Blochmann exhibited a Sanad dated 5th Jumādā II. of the 26th year of Shāh 'Ālam II. The seal has the date 1173 A.H. سنة ١١٧٣ and the full name of the Emperor is there given as

Abūl Muẓaffar Jalālu-d-dīn Shāh 'Ālam Pādishāh-i-Ghāzī, Proceedings, Asiatic Society of Bengal, 1870, pp. 6-9.

There are in existence some coins which do not bear the regnant title of Shāh 'Ālam, but his preaccession name. One described by Mr. Longworth Dames (Num. Chron. 1902, pp. 305-6) is of the 2nd year. Another in the Panjāb Museum is of the 15th (P.M.C., 3164). On both these specimens, which I have elsewhere shown to have issued from the Peshwā's mint of Muhiābād-Pūna (Num. Sup. XXXI, 365-8), the name is written على گور. - This mode of spelling is not at all correct, and is due to Mahratta ignorance or carelessness. Misled by this, and perhaps also, by a fancied connection with the name



of the fourth Khalif, many European writers who are by no means indifferent to or oblivious of the requirements of accurate transliteration have allowed themselves to reproduce it in various forms which are all incorrect. Thus, Messrs Lane Poole and Rodgers have '*Alī Gaur* (B.M.C., xli; J.A.S.B., 1885, p. 73); Mr. Keene writes '*Alī Gohar*, (Fall of the Moghul Empire, Ed. 1887, p. 40); Mr. Dames (Num. Chron., 1902, p. 305) and Mr. Whitehead agree in making it '*Alī Gohar*.

I may be permitted to say that the name is really **عالی گوهر** or **عالی گہر**, and it is always so written by the chroniclers.

*Maāsiru-l-Umarā*, II, 717, l. 7; 845. l. 18, 851, l. 11; 855, l. 14; III, 922, l. 11.

*Hadīqatu-l-Aqālīm*, p. 117.

*Tārīkh-i-Muzaffarī* (MS.) 270 ll. 17, 20.

*Miftāhu-l-Tawārīkh*, 343, l. 16. 344. ll 3, 6.

The translator of the *Siyaru-l-Mutākhkhirīn* always calls him '*Aaly-Gohar*' (Reprint 1902, II, 286) and says that the name signifies "gem of high value" (Ibid., II, 336 note). **گوهر** is also written **گہر**, in Persian. It means according to Steingass, "gem, jewel, race, stock, essence, quality, etc.," and **عالی** has the sense of 'high, sublime, eminent, excellent.' (Dictionary s.v.). The point would scarcely need elaboration but for an unfortunate consensus of error, and it may be permissible to point out that the accurate and learned Blochmann writes *Alī Guhar* (Genealogical Table of the House of Tīmūr (*Āīn*, Translation, *ad fin.*)).

This article may fitly conclude with the citation of a Chronogram which was composed by a contemporary poet for symbolising in *Abjad* the date of the accession of this Emperor.

زهی شاه **عالی گہر** عدل گستر  
با وقار و تخت و نگین شد مستم  
برون آر سال جـ لوس همايون  
ز سلطان ہندوستان شاہ عالم

*Khazāna-i-Āmirā*, 91, l. 4.

It will be noticed that the first line will not scan unless the name is read as **عالی گہر**. The numerical value of the words سلطان ہندوستان شاہ عالم is 1173.

## BIDAR BAKHT.

### FULL STYLE AND TITLES.

Nothing is known of the full style and titles of this poor creature of Ghulām Qādir. All that can be said is that his

'alam was 'Muhammad' (I.M.C., 2498-9). Beale says (*Miftāh*, 361, l. 8) that he was given the regnant title [موسوم به بیدار شاه] of Bīdār Shāh and also cites in support of his statement the Pretender's *Bait-i-sikka* which is as follows:—

حامی دین نبی بیدار شاه  
سکه زد در هند از فضل الله

But no numismatic warrant for the distich has been yet discovered.

## AKBAR II.

### FULL STYLE AND TITLES.

*Abūn-Nasr M'uīnu-d-dīn Muhammad Akbar Shāh-i-Sānī.*  
*Miftāhu-t-Tawārīkh*, 375, l. 21.

Blochmann, Genealogical Table of the House of Tīmūr in *Āin-i-Akbarī*, Trans. I, *ad fin.*

## BAHĀDUR SHĀH II.

### FULL STYLE AND TITLES.

*Abūl Muẓaffar Sirāju-d-dīn Muḥammad Bahādur Shāh*  
*Pādishāh-i-Ghāzī.*

*Miftāhu-t-Tawārīkh*, 394, l. 14.

Blochmann, Genealogical Table, *Āin*, Trans. I, *ad fin.*

Garcin de Tassy gives *Sirāju-d-dīn Abū Zafar Muḥammad* in 'Mémoire sur les Noms Propres et les titres Musulmans' (Paris, 1854),<sup>1</sup> p. 16. Beale says that ابوالمظفر gives in 'Abjad' the date of his birth [تاریخ میلاد اوست] i.e. 1189 (?). The 'Kunyat' is ابوظفر in his coin-couplet, *Miftāh*, 394, l. 21.

<sup>1</sup> The full name of this Emperor is given as

ابوظفر سراج الدین محمد بهادر شاه پادشاه غازی

by Sayyad Ahmad Khān also, *Āḡāru-s-Sanādīd*. (Urdū), Ed. 1895 A.C. Part II, p. 22 last line. On the coins, however, the *Kunyat* is ابوالمظفر and the م is unmistakably clear in the plates. (I.M.C. No. 2513; P.M.C. 3276.)

## XXIII. COIN-COUPLETS.

The patience and ingenuity which have been brought to bear upon the decipherment of the couplets inscribed on the coins of the Mughal Emperors must command the admiration of all those who have any experience of the difficulty of piecing together legends of which only detached fragments are frequently visible on individual specimens. It is not perhaps generally known that several of the distichs which have cost so much time and labour to 'build up' are reproduced *verbatim et litteratim* in the Mughal histories.

It is possible to claim a very respectable degree of antiquity for the practice of covering with verses the surfaces of coins. Metrical legends are found on the monetary issues of the Byzantine or Lower Eastern Empire as early as the 11th century of the Christian Era—(Encyc. Brit. Eleventh edit. Art. Numismatics, XIX, 896). The earliest known example of a Persian coin-couplet occurs on some heavy copper pieces of the Gujarāt Sultān, Ghiyāsu-d-dīn Muḥammad Shāh (846-855 A.H.) I.M.C. II, p. 227, No. 9; Taylor, *Coins of the Gujarāt Saltanat*, Bom. Br. R.A.S. Journal, 1903, p. 328). A poetical invocation addressed in Arabic to 'Alī, attracts attention on a coin issued in 928 A.H. by the zealous Shī'a, Shāh Ism'āl Safawī I. (R. S. Poole, *Coins of the Shāhs of Persia in the British Museum*, No. 15; Codrington, *Musalmān Numismatics*, p. 95). The only published coin of Ism'āl II (984 A.H.) displays on the Reverse a سجده which M. Soret who first published it was unable to decipher. But Mr. R. S. Poole had the good luck to find the inscription written out as a distich in the *Tāẓikh-i-Ālam-ārāi-Abbāsī*. It is

زمشوق تابمغرب گر امام است  
ملی و آل او مارا تمام است

'If an Imām there be between the east and west,  
'Alī along with 'Alī's house for us is best.'

(R. S. Poole, *op. cit.* Introd. lxxvi-ii. See also Oliver, *Coins of the Safawī Dynasty of Persia*, J.A.S.B., 1897, p. 67 and note; pl. II, No. 13).<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Some copper coins exhibiting dates ranging from 934 to 940 A.H. have a couplet on them, the credit of first deciphering which belongs, to my knowledge, to Mr. Nelson Wright. They have been fully described by the late Dr. Taylor in Num. Supp. XXXIII, art. 200. Their attribution is not certain, but they must have been first uttered either by Bābur or Bahādur Shāh of Gujarāt. I have myself about two dozen of them in three sizes.

It is not at all improbable that Akbar borrowed the idea of having verses on the coins, like several other of his notions, from Persia, and students of his mintages will perhaps be struck by the verbal resemblance between the above distich and the lines composed by Sharif Sarmadī in 991 A.H.—only seven years later—for the earliest issues of the newly-opened mint of Ilahābād.<sup>1</sup>

Badāonī writes: "At that time [991 A.H. XXIXth R.Y.] A'zam Khān. came in haste from Hājpūr to Ilahābād and did homage \* \* \* And the Amirs laid in that city the foundations of a great building, and it was determined that thenceforth that place should be the capital. And they struck a new coinage [و سکه نوزدند] and Sharif Sarmadī \* \* \* wrote this verse for the coin: [سج سکه این بهت یافت].

'Ever may it current be, like the gold of sun and moon,  
From east to west of the world, the coinage of Ilahābād.

همیشه چون زر خورشید و ماه رایج باد  
بشرق و غرب جهان سکه آید آباد

(Lowe II, 345; Text. II, 335-6; The second line is not correctly given).

The words used by the historian [سکه نوزدند] may be perhaps taken to imply that some sort of innovation was introduced in the form or style of the coin, and the novelty may be fairly supposed to consist in the substitution of the سج or metrical legend for the customary superscription in prose. It should be also noticed that the author explicitly puts the issue of this type of money into the 29th year of Akbar's reign.<sup>2</sup> The earliest dated *Rupees* of the Ilahābād mint are of the 40th. (I.M.C III, xxviii). Now Badāonī is known to have died in that very year,<sup>3</sup> and if the first issue of these couplet-rupees had been

<sup>1</sup> Sharif was a Sayyad of Nishāpūr, and his mother is said, by the author of the *Madā'ir-i Rahimī*, to have been the sister of Amīr Shāhmīr, who had been for a long time assay-master under Shāh 'Āhmās. He died in 1002 A.H. Blochmann, *Ain. Tr.* I, 59).

<sup>2</sup> Badāonī puts this event the foundation of Ilahābād etc.) into the 29th year and before Zi-l-hajja 991 A.H. But his chronology is not always correct or even absolutely consistent. He has, as a rule, followed Nizāmud-dīn, but in attempting to rectify the errors of his predecessor, has fallen into new ones of his own. It is clear from Abūl Faṣl's *Akbarnāma* that it was the 28th Ilāhī year which began on 28th Šafar 991 A.H. and that the 29th commenced only on 8 Rab'ī I, 992 A.H. (Elliot and Dowson V. 246; Cunningham, *Indian Eras*, p. 225). Abūl Faṣl says that the foundations of the city were 'laid in an auspicious hour' on 1st Āzar of the 28th year. (A.N., Trans. I, 617).

<sup>3</sup> Dowson says that A.H. 1024 (1615 A.C.) is given as the year of his

such a recent event, it is not easy to conceive how he could have made the mistake of ante-dating them by ten or eleven years. It is not improbable that the oldest or first type of this Ilahābād rupee bore no date at all, and that it is exemplified by B.M.C. 254 and 254a.<sup>1</sup>

Several verse-mottoes were also composed by Faizi the poet-laureate, for the 100 muhr, 50 muhr and 25 muhr gold-pieces struck by the Emperor's orders. They are quoted in Abūl Fazl's *Āin*, (Blochmann's Trans. I, 28-9), and will be found transcribed in the chapter on the 'Gigantic Coins.'

Reference may be made to the same paper for the passage in which Jahāngīr informs us that the following verses composed by Āṣaf Khān were stamped on the 100, 50, 20 and 10 tola muhrs for the striking of which he gave orders soon after his accession.

بخط نور بر زر کلاک نقـدیر  
رقم زد شاه نور الدین جهانگیر  
شد چو خورزین سکه نورانی جهان  
افتاب مملکت تاریخ آن

(*Tūzūk-i-Jahāngīrī*, Text, 5, l. 18; Trans. I, 11).

The distich inscribed on the *Nūrijahānī* or 'one tola muhr' was the product of the Amīru-l-umarā's poetical genius and is also cited by the Imperial autobiographer. It is the well-known نـورانی ساخت couplet of the coins.

روی زر را ساخت نورانی برنگ مهر و ماه  
شاه نور الدین جهانگیر ابن اکبر بادشاه

*Ibid.* Text, 5, l. 24; Trans. I. 11.

We are also informed that the silver tankas or *double-rupees* struck during Jahāngīr's visit to Cambay in the twelfth year

death by the author of the *Ṭabaqāt-i-Shūh Jahānī* (E.D. V. 478). But Ghulam 'Alī Āzād Bilgrāmī declares, on the authority of the writer of the *Sumratu-l-quds*, who was a pupil of Badāonī—that the latter died in 1004 A.H. (*Khazānā-i-Āmirā*, Kānpūr Lith. 1900 A.C., p. 324, l. 1). This receives confirmation from several other sources. (Blochmann, J.A.S.B., 1869, pp. 142-3. See also Beale, *Oriental Biographical Dictionary*, Ed. Keene, p. 4.)

<sup>1</sup> In this connection, it may be worth while inviting attention to the fact that we find the Ilahābād mint issuing coins of a really novel type in the 31st year of the reign. The inscription on the obverse مهر الهی باس is most unusual, and does not, to my knowledge, recur on any other copper coins of the Mughal series. The word مهر has been understood in the literal sense of 'stamp'—hence 'stamped money of any denomination or value.' The type seems to have been discontinued after the 33d year. (B.M.C., 273a. I.M.C. III, 367-8).

(1027 A.H.) bore the following metrical legends on obverse and reverse :

بزر این سکه زد شاه جهانگیر ظفر پرتو  
پس از فتح دکن آمد چو در گجرات از ماندو

(*Ibid* Text, 207, ll. 9-11; Trans, 1, 418). The subject is more fully treated in another chapter.

The distich inscribed on the obverse and reverse of some undated rupees of *Burhānpūr* is quoted by the compiler of the *Mukhtasār-i-Siyar-i-Gulshan-i-Hind*. I give it below as it derives added interest from the fact that the poet has chosen to give to the bibulous emperor the epithet of دین پناه which was afterwards assumed as his official *laqab* by Kām Baksh.

سکه زد در شهر برهان پور شاه دین پناه  
شاه نور الدین جهانگیر ابن اکبر بادشاه

(*Op. cit.* 67 quoted by Rodgers, J.A.S.B., 1888, p. 24).

I have also found another familiar distich or 'Bait' in the so-called *Tārīkh-i-Salīm Shāhī* or *Jahāngīrnāma*—an unauthentic recension of the Emperor's 'Memoirs' which was first given to the world, so long ago as 1832 in an English version, by David Price. "I ordained," Jahāngir is here made to say in the very beginning of the Autobiography, "that the following legend should be stamped on the coinage of the empire; 'Stricken at Agrah by that Khossrou, the safeguard of the world; the Sovereign splendour of the faith, Jahangueir, son of the Imperial Akbar,'" (Memoirs of the Emperor Jahangueir, written by Himself, Trans. Major D. Price, Calcutta Reprint, 1918, p. 2).

Its huge and preposterous exaggerations, want of chronological sequence and other defects have justly caused this work to be looked upon with grave suspicion, and Sir Henry Elliot was inclined to regard it as spurious and altogether unworthy of credit. But it is an undoubtedly contemporary compilation and there is a copy of it in the Library of the Royal Asiatic Society which purports to have been written in 1040 A.H.—only three years after Jahāngir's death. (Elliot and Dowson VI, 253). The historian Khāfi Khān was acquainted with it and has cited at length two of its most marvellous and incredible tales (Text, I. 308-313). It also contains many minor details and much "matter which the other version shows to have been characteristic of Jahāngir." (E.D. VI, 255). The original text has not yet been published but it is clear that its compiler, whoever he was, had an Āgra coin bearing the خسرو گیتی پناه couplet before his eyes when writing.

The author of the *Iqbāl-nāma* informs us that coins were

struck in the name of Nūr Jahān and that the legend on the coins (نقش سکه) was as follows:—

بحکم شاه جهانگیر یافت صد زیور  
بنام نور جهان بادشاه بیگم زر

(Bibl. Ind. Text, 56, two lines from foot).

The writer adds that the style or formula at the top of the *farmāns* issued by Nūr Jahān herself was:

حکم علیه عالیہ مہد علیا نور جهان بادشاه بیگم \*

*Ibid.* 57 = Elliot and Dowson, VI, 405.<sup>1</sup>

The Nūr Jahān couplet is also given by Khāfi Khān, I, 268, five lines from foot and in Beale's *Miftāḥ-i-tawārīkh*, Kāhnepūr Lith. 1284 Hijri, p. 214.

These coins are among the most interesting in the Mughal series and it may be therefore worth while to draw attention to an explicit statement, fixing the date of their withdrawal from circulation, which is buried in the correspondence of the East India Company. In a letter addressed to the President and Council of Sūrāt by the Factors at Āgra on 17th February, 1628, we read: "All rup[ees] of Noor Jehann Beagams stampe are called in and not to bee uttered." English Factories in India, 1624–1629, p. 241. As Shāh Jahān formally ascended the throne on the 14th of February, 1628, N.S., he would appear to have lost no time in issuing the order.

It may be permissible to say a few words in connection

<sup>1</sup> In Dowson's rendering of this passage we read: "On all *farmāns* also, receiving the Imperial signature, the name of Nūr Jahān, the Queen Begam was jointly attached." This is incorrect, and the author's meaning has been misunderstood. I have seen originals or copies of several *Farmāns* of this Emperor and not one of them bears any such superscription. The words, طغرای فرامین چنین نقش بست merely mean that the inscription written in the *Tughra* character at the head of Nūr Jahān's own *farmāns* or letters contained these words. The reading of the words is given because the *Tughra* character is exceedingly difficult to decipher, and very few can write or read it well. *Vide* Richardson's Persian Dictionary, s.v. طغرا.

In this connection, it might be worth while citing the exactly parallel case of the all-powerful mother of Sultān 'Alāu-d-dīn Takash—Turkān Khātūn. Her name and titles were, like Nūr Jahan's, permitted to appear on coins and specimens of these issues are extant. Thomas, J.R.A.S. 1879, p. 26.

"Turcan-Khatoune," writes the historian of the Mongols, "mere de Sultan \* \* \* était à la tête du parti forme par les généraux de sa nation, et donée d'un grand caractère, elle exerçait un pouvoir égal à celui de son fils. \* \* \* Son monogramme (Tougra) qu'elle écrivait de sa main sur ses Ordonnances, se composait de ces mots: *Protectrice du monde et de la foi, Turkan reine des femmes de l'univers; et sa devise était: Dieu seul est mon refuge.* Elle prenait le titre de *Khoudavand Djihan*, ou de souveraine du monde." D'Ohsson, Histoire des Mongols, I. 198.

with the title 'Pādishāh or Bīdishāh Begam.' Marsden declares that it means '*Imperatrix consors*,' Blochmann opines that we should translate it by 'Imperatrix, Queen Begam.' (Proceedings A.S.B., 1869, p. 255). Dowson's rendering is 'Queen Begam' and Mr Whitehead adopts the simple English word 'Empress.' All these equivalents are more or less deficient in accuracy. They are liable to obscure the true significance of this honorific title and even calculated to convey a false impression as to the real position of the person who bore it. The 'Pādishāh Begam' was not necessarily *Imperatrix consors* nor *imperatrix* nor Empress.

The title did not imply that the lady was the wife either of the reigning or of a deceased emperor. There is excellent authority for saying that it was borne by Shāh Jahān's eldest daughter, the Princess Jahānārā, and Khāfi Khān gives her the appellation at least twice in his chronicle.<sup>1</sup> (Text, II, 77, l. 19 and 110, l. 13). We also know that Bahādur Shāh Shāh 'Ālam I, conferred it on Zebu-n-nisā, his own half-sister and the full-sister of A'zam Shāh. (Khāfi Khān, Text, II, 30, l. 3; 600, l. 10; 735, two lines from foot and 736, l. 1.)

The 'Pādishāh Begam' was really the First lady of the Court or Empire, the individual who, in the feminine world, took precedence of all other women, as the Emperor did, of all other men. The widowed mother or elder sister or aunt often occupies in an oriental household a position far superior to that of the wife. It is clear from the *Humāyūn Nāma* of the Princess Gulbadan that the most honoured lady in Bābur's family was not his favourite wife, Māham, but his widowed elder sister, Khānzāda Begam; and that she continued to rule the household even in the reign of his son. (Trans. 103, 106, 117, 125, etc.)

Akbar's mother, *Miriam Makānī*, appears to have had greater influence than any of his wives, and the reverential manner in which Jahāngīr invariably speaks of his own mother, *Miriam Zamānī* leaves little doubt that so long as she was alive, she was the first lady in his realm. (*Tūzūk*. Trans. I, 76, 78, 81, 145, 230; II, 68, 261).

We do not know when the title 'Pādishāh Begam, was bestowed on Mihru-n-nisā. She was styled Nūr Jahān only in the 11th year, and the conjecture may be offered that it was only after the death of the Emperor's mother that the honour was conferred upon her. Now Miriam Zamānī died at Āgra in Rajab 1032 A.H. and Jahāngīr heard of the event in his camp at Ajmer on the 19th of that month (9th Khurdād, XVIIIth R.Y.). *Tūzūk*, Tr. II, 261. *Iqbāl-nāma*, Text, 205, l. 8. It

<sup>1</sup> Manucci says Aurangzeb conferred on her 'the title 'Pacha Begam' that is Empress of Princesses.' Irvine, *Storia*, II, 127.

Tavernier also states that Aurangzeb commanded that she should "bear the title of Princess Queen." [*Īshā-Begam*]. *Travels*. Tr. Ball, I, 376; Eng. Trans. of J.P. 1678, Part II, Bk. II, 121.



may be a mere coincidence, but it is not unworthy of note that the earliest coins bearing the couplet with the title is a Sūrat Rupee of 1033-19 (B.M.C. No. 514).

The distich which continued to appear on Aurangzeb's mintages in gold and silver for nearly half a century is given (with بدر in the first line), by the author of the '*Ālamgīrnāma* (Bibl. Ind. Text, 367, l. 3) and is also in the *Maasir-i-Ālamgīrī*. The latter adds that the *Bait* was composed by Mir 'Abdu-l-

Bāqī whose pen-name [ تخلص ] was Šahbāl and that it greatly pleased the Emperor [ بغایت پسند طبع اقدس آمد ] (Text, 23, l. 10). Khāfi Khān also quotes the lines, but he has مهر in the first hemistich and expressly says that بدر was stamped in its stead on the Rupee [ و در روپیه بجای مهر بدر مسکوی ساختند ]. Bibl. Ind. Text, II. 77, l. 10. See also Elliot and Dowson, VII, 241.

These well-known verses appear to have struck the fancy and fixed themselves in the memory of at least two European sojourners in this country, the English physician Fryer and the Venetian adventurer Manucci. Their versions of the legend are worth reproducing as curiosities, if not monstrosities, of transliteration. Fryer or perhaps his printer is responsible for the following:—

*Dergs hau sic carud chubadera monier,  
Paudshaw Aureng-zeeb Allum Geir.*

He says that "it was the Inscription on his *Rupees* in Persian characters." New Account of East-India and Persia, Ed. 1698, p. 113.

Manucci also states that Aurangzeb "caused coins to be struck in his own name" at Dehli; "on which were shown these words.

*Seca zad der Jahan chuni'badre munir.*

*Xaa Orangzeb Alamguer.*

\* \* \* that is to say, 'struck coin in the world as clear as the sun and moon, I, King Aurangzeb, conqueror of the world.' Irvine, *Storia do Mogor*, I, 339.

It will be observed that both these writers have بدر in the first half of their representation of the couplet.

The distich is also given in the *Hadīqatu-l-Aqālīm*, Lakhnau Lith p. 111, and Beale, *Mi/tāh*, 266.

Khāfi Khān informs us that A'zam Shāh ascended the throne on the 10th of Zi-l-hajja 1118 A.H. and "made this coin-legend resound throughout the Dekkan" [ بدین مسکه دکن ساخت را پر آوز ساخت ]. He then gives the words of the distich which are

سکه زد در جهان بدولت و جاو بادشاه مه — الک اعظم — م شاه

Text. II, 571, five lines from foot.

Manucci also has reproduced the lines in a way and added some details which would be of great value if they were not demonstrably incorrect.

"On March 15 [1707]," he writes, 'A'zam Tārā decided to take his seat on the throne. \* \* \* He ordered new money to be coined, one-twelfth part larger than the pieces current, and of the small change he ordered two coins to be made into one. Thus nowadays one rupee is worth thirty-two pieces of copper. Upon the new coin were impressed the words:—

*Secadzad der Jaan badablout iae*  
*Patxu mamalek Azamxa.'*

'Storia do Mogor,' Tr. Irvine, IV, 398-9.

Manucci sat down to compose his 'Memoirs' when he was past sixty (*op. cit.* Introd. lxxiv). He was at Madras himself in 1707. He wrote from hearsay and it seems to me that he has jumbled up things and ascribed to the younger brother what was really done by the elder. (See my note on 'Some Heavy Rupees of Bahādur Shāh Shāh 'Ālam I.' Num. Supp. XXVIII. Art. 176). But even then, the increment of six or seven grains could be hardly said to represent the 'twelfth part' of 178 grains, which was the theoretical or issue-weight of the Mughal rupee.

The Memoirs of this Italian picaroon-footman, gunner, quack, money-lender and diplomatic agent—contain much that is interesting and amusing, but they are also crowded with errors, misrepresentations and misconceptions of all degrees of magnitude and grossness. Coins of A'zam are very rare, but the extant specimens in gold as well as silver are of normal weight and do not bear out the assertion of the Venetian. No copper coins of this claimant have been found.

Rodgers says that he was able to "build up" the metrical legend on the rupees and muhrs of Kām Baksh only after minutely comparing two coins of his own with one referred to by Mr. Delmerick and illustrated in the Proceedings of the A.S.B., for May, 1884. (J.A.S.B., 1888, p. 28.) He would have found the *ipsisima verba* of the couplet correctly transcribed and ready to his hand, if he had gone to the *Muntakhabul-Lubāb* of Khāfi Khān where it is thus given:—

دردن زد سکه بر خورشید و ماه      پادشاه کام بخ—ش دین پنا

(Bibl. Ind. Text, II, 570, l. 6.)

When Bahādur Shāh Shāh 'Ālam I finally determined the form of his own *Khulba* and *Sikka* after defeating A'zam Shāh at Jājau Sarāi, "Orders were given that in the coinage of rupees and *Ashrafis* no verse should be used, but that the name [اسم] 'Shāh 'Ālam Bahādur Shāh' and the name of the (mint) city should be impressed in prose." (Khāfi Khān's *Muntakhabul-Lubāb*, trans. in Elliot and Dowson, VII, 404, Bibl. Ind. Text, II, 603. l. 13.)

It would seem that, in this matter, as in several others, Bahādur had, like the Roman Emperor of old, made up his mind to "avoid in all things the example" of his father. All his father's issues of the normal type had displayed a ع or verse-motto for fifty years. He would, for that very reason, have none of the jingle of which a facetious parody attributed to Shāh 'Abbās II, of Persia, was on everybody's lips.

Manucci's account of the insults heaped by the Shāh on Aurangzeb's ambassador is too long to quote, but the parody itself will bear citation. He gives it thus:—

*Seca zad bacurs penir.  
Orangzeb beradercox padergir.*

which Mr. Irvine thus translates:—

'Struck coin upon a round of cheese.  
Aurangzeb, brother-slayer, father-seizer.'

Storia do Mogor, II, 131.

The verses are also given (incorrectly) in the *Siyarul-Mutākhkhirin*. Calc. Repr. IV, 196, Translator's Note.

We have seen Khāfi Khān stating that Bahādur Shāh Shāh 'Ālam I. expressly prohibited the use of verse legends and yet couplet-coins of this Emperor, from at least four mints, Akbarābād, Tatta, Murshidābād, and Multān are known. (P.M.C. Nos. 2015, 2037, 2091 and J.A.S.B. 1912, p. 437.) They are all of the first year [ سنة احدى ] and we are naturally led to ask, why this is so. The answer is that the order spoken of was issued only after Bahādur's chances of securing the throne were assured by the defeat of his rival A'zam at Jāṣau Sarāi on the 18th of Rab'ī I, 1119. We are told that the Emperor's Farmān on the subject of the 'khuṭba' and the 'sikka' reached Aḥmadābād only some time after 9th Rajab 1119 A.H. (*Mirāt-i-Aḥmadī*, Bombay Lith. I, 402, l. 4). At any rate, coins must have been issued in his name immediately after his accession on the 30th of Muḥarram 1119 A.H. in all those cities of which the governors happened to be his old adherents or recent partisans. The Ṣūbas of Tatta, Multān and Bengal were, at the death of Aurangzeb, under the government of three sons of Bahādur, the princes Mu'izzu-d-dīn, A'zu-d-dīn and 'Azīmu-sh-Shān (ED. VII, 392, 393), who might be safely supposed to have lost no time in uttering coins bearing the name of their parent. As for Akbarābād, Khāfi Khān informs us that though the commandant of the fort, Bāqī Khān, outwardly assumed an attitude of neutrality, and even wrote a very humble letter to Prince Muḥammad A'zam, his personal predilections were in favour of Shāh 'Ālam, as he considered the latter's chances of being the first to reach Āgra a great deal the best. (*Ibid.*, VII, 392-3.)

But all these partisans were at some disadvantage in not having been provided with a coin-formula possessing the Imperial sanction. They were all familiar with the different names borne by the eldest prince, but no one could tell which of them would be retained and which rejected by him in his new position. The authorities at Akbarābād appear to have plumped for *‘Ālamgīr-i-Sānī*, *Ṣāhib qirānī*, and vetoed the familiar birth-name *Mu‘azzam*. The prince-governor of Tatta thought the odds were most in favour of *Mu‘azzam* and *Shāh Jahān-i-Sānī*. The mint-master of Murshidābād took three out of these four magniloquent epithets and contrived to pack them all together in one and the same distich. His Highness A‘zu-d-din of Multān took a line of his own. He put Shāh ‘Ālam in the foreground and thought his father would most easily win public favour by styling himself *Hāmī-i-dīn*, ‘Defender of the Faith.’ Briefly, every one was obliged to exercise and give free play to his own invention, and as all the issues of the last half-century had made a legend in rhyme so familiar to the popular imagination as to make it indispensable, the ‘local poets’ were everywhere appealed to for ‘something suitable.’ The results may be seen in these unauthorized issues of the *Sana-i-Aḥd*.

Jahāndār Shāh, in his turn, reversed the decree of his father banishing ‘poetry’ from the mints. He restored the  $\text{سکه}$  and one of the couplets found on his coins is correctly given by the author of the *Mirāt-i-Aḥmadī* in the following form:—

در آفاق زد سکه چون مهر و ماه      ابو الفتح غازی جهاندار شاه

(Bombay Lithograph, 1306 A.H., Pt. I, p. 417, ll. 1-2.)

The author of the *Ḥadīqatu-l-Aqālīm* (written about 1190 A.H., vide Elliot and Dowson, VIII, 180) says that the following distich was inscribed on the coins of that emperor, and this *alleged* couplet is also cited in Beale’s *Miṭāḥu-t-tawārīkh*.

(Kāhnpūr Lithograph, 1867 A.C., p. 299, l. 13.)

بزد سکه در ملک چون مهر و ماه      شهنشاه غازی جهاندار شاه

*Ḥadīqatu-l-Aqālīm*, Lakhnau Lithograph, p. 131, l. 12.

The author of the *Mukhtasar-i-Siyar-i-Gulshan-i-Hind* also gives this distich with  $\text{نقره}$  instead of  $\text{در ملک}$  in the first line. (Rodgers, *loc. cit.* p. 28.) It is not unlikely that the last two writers have transcribed the ‘bait’ from the first without any attempt at verification, but it is also-not impossible that the lines quoted in the *Ḥadīqat* represent a variant form, of which examples may be hereafter found.

The  $\text{سکه}$  بيت of Farrukhsiyar

سکه زد از فضل حق بر سیم دزر      پادشاه یحیی و بر فرخ سیر

is correctly quoted in the *Mirāt-i-Aḥmadī*. (Bomb. Lith. Pt. I. 422, ll. 6-7; *Ḥadīqatu-l-Aqālīm*, Lakhnau Lith. 133, l. 6;

and Beale, *Miftāḥu-t-Tawārīkh*, Kāhn-pūr Lith. 1867, p. 301, l. 9.)

The following parody of these lines is quoted by Mr. Irvine: (Later Mughals, J.A.S.B., 1904, p. 357.)

سکہ زد برگندم و موند و منتر پادشاه دالہ کش فرخ میر

"Struck coin on wheat and lentils and peas,  
The grain-gathering Emperor, Farrukhsiyar."

The authorship of these lines has been ascribed to Mirzā Ja'far Zatali of Nārnol and he is said to have been condemned to death for perpetrating them (Beale, *Oriental Biographical Dictionary*, Ed. Keene, p. 189).

The contemporary author of the *Mirāt-i-Aḥmadī* has left it on record that the coins of the fainéant Raf'ū-d-darajāt bore this couplet.

زد سکہ بھند با هزاران برکات شاهنشہ بحر و برزخ الدراجات

Manuscript in the Library of the Archaeological Society of Junāgadh, page 419.

The verse is also in Beale, *Miftāḥu-t-tawārīkh*, Kāhn-pūr Lith, p. 304, top line.<sup>1</sup>

Mr. Irvine writes: "On the second day of the reign, Quṭb-u-l-Mulk called on Faṭḥ Khan Fāzil to provide a couplet which should allow of a different word for gold coins (*ashrafī*) and silver coins (rupees), as was the case with 'Ālamgr's coinage. The poet on the spur of the moment produced the following lines:—

*Sikkah zad Shāh Raf'ūd-darajāt*

*Mihr mānind ba Yamīn-o-barakāt.*

'The Emperor Raf'ūd darajāt struck coin  
Sun-like with power and felicity.'<sup>2</sup>

On the rupee, the word *badr* (moon) was substituted for *mihr* (Sun). It is not known whether these lines were ever actually brought into use, as we have no coin on which they appear."

(Later Mughals, J.A.S.B. 1904, p. 41, citing Kāmwar Khān, (MS.), 197, and Mirzā Muḥammad, *Tārīkh-i-Muḥammadī*, MS., 470).

<sup>1</sup> The British Museum possesses a Mu'azzamābād muhr (Catalogue No. 937a) with a variant form which "has not been satisfactorily deciphered." I beg to suggest that it has نصر instead of بھند

<sup>2</sup> The second line is, I venture to say, not correctly given. It seems to me that we should read *Yumn* instead of *Yamīn*, and substitute 'prosperity' for 'power' in the translation. The fact is that the poet is punning on the name of the Emperor. The synonym of برکات is not *Yumn* but *Yamīn*.

Students of Mughal coins know from Dowson's condensed translation of *Khāfi Khān* that "Coins of gold and silver were struck in the name of Nikūsiyar, (E.D. VII, 482), but they do not seem to be aware that the couplet itself in its entirety and 'full resonant beauty,' is to be found in the original. No coins of the claimant have been discovered, but they may turn up yet, and then only will it be possible to say if the following is genuine.

بزرزد سکه صاحب قرانی<sup>۱</sup>      شه نیکو میر تدبیر فانی

*Bibl. Ind. Text*, II, 825, l. 7.

"On gold struck he coin like the *Ṣāhibqirān*,  
Nikūsiyar, the Emperor, Timur the Second."

But the existence of this probably genuine distich of the claimant in the pages of the contemporary chronicler does not seem to have been known, and Rodgers ascribed to that puppet the very different *Baī* which arrests attention on some mulirs and rupees minted at Sūrat, A'zamnagar and Bhakkar (?) in 1131 A.H. This conjectural attribution was more or less passively acquiesced in by numismatists, until the late Mr. Irvine pointed out that this metrical legend was, in the *Mirāt-i-Ahmadi*, definitely stated to have been stamped on the coins issued by the mint-masters in Gujrāt immediately after the receipt of the news of Muḥammad Shāh's accession. As the latter portion of this provincial history has not yet been published and the original text of this important passage was not cited by Mr. Irvine, I give it below from a fairly correct manuscript in the Library of the Archaeological Society of Junāgadh. After saying that Nāhir Khān, the Diwān of the province, received from the Vazīr a *Hasbu-l-hukm* or order announcing the accession of Muḥammad Raushan Akhtar and his assumption of the *laqab* Muḥammad Shāh, he says:—

پس از ورود احکام مهر علیخان نایب صوبه و روح الله خان نایب دیوان  
و ارباب تحریر و بند های پادشاهی منادی باسم مبارک بلند آوازه گردانیدند  
مغیر و کبیر و بر نا و پیر از جلوس ابد قرین مغیر ساختند و خطیب بخواندن  
خطبه طیبه بالقاب همايون و طب اللسان و عذب البیان گشته پایت صبر را  
مرتبه برتری داد و مهر طلا و نقره بنقش سکه مبارک بهای و رتبه بی اندازه  
بهم رسانیده اعتبار رواج افزود چندی در آغاز جلوس این بیت مسکوی گشت \*

<sup>1</sup> This phrase *سکه صاحب قرانی* which occurs for the first time in the Mughal series on the couplet rupees of Bahādur Shāh (P.M.C. Nos. 1996, 2015 and 2091), and hereafter becomes vastly more common (P.M.C. Nos. 2748, 2766, 2839, 2861, 2890-1, 3050, etc.) appears much earlier on the coins of Shāh 'Abbās II of Persia (R.S. Poole, *Coins of the Shāhs of Persia*, No. 3646; *Codrington, Musalmān Numismatics*, 96).

سکه زد در جهان ز لطف الله      بادشاه زمان محمد شاه  
من بعد سکه مبارک محمد شاه بادشاه غازی قوار یافت \*

(MS. p. 426, l. 1.)

"After the arrival of these orders, Mihr 'Alī Khān the Nāib-Sūba and Ruḥallah Khān, the Nāib-Diwān and the members of the Secretariat (or Clerical department) and [other] imperial servants had the auspicious name [of the Emperor] loudly proclaimed, and informed the small and the great, the young and the old of the never-ending enthronement. The Khaṣīb waxed eloquent and fluent while reciting the august titles in an elegant Khuṭba and the dignity of the pulpit was thereby still more exalted. Gold and silver coins acquired greater value and esteem and circulated and passed more freely on account of being inscribed with the auspicious coin-legend [سکه 'مبارک']. And for some time after the commencement of the reign, the following couplet was stamped on the coins:—

'Struck coin in the world by Heaven's Grace,  
Muḥammad Shāh the Lord of the Age.'

Afterwards, it was resolved that the legend was to be *Sikka i-Mubārak-i-Muḥammad Shāh Bādishāh-i-Ghāzī*."

We may take it then for certain that the 'Bait' which figures on the first-year issues of Sūrat and A'zamnagar--is Muḥammad Shāh's, and our grateful acknowledgments are due to the author of the *Mirāt* for having not thought it below the dignity of History to record this minor detail.

Two out of the three couplets which have been noticed on the coins of 'Ālamgīr II are correctly transcribed in the *Miftāḥu-t-tawārikh* and the *Mukhtaṣar-i-Siyar-i-Gulshan-i-Hind*. The compiler of the former tells us that the بیت سکه of this Emperor was—

بزر زد سکه صاحب قرانی      عزیز الدین عالمگیر ثانی

*Op. cit.* 341, l. 2.

The author of the latter has left it on record that the Shāhjahānābād rupees of the first year of this Emperor were stamped with the distich.

سکه زد بر هفت کشور و مہر و ماہ  
شاه عزیز الدین عالمگیر غازی بادشاه

(Rodgers, J.A.S.B. 1888, p. 31.)

That enthusiastic and untiring coin-hunter had not come across, when he wrote, any numismatic proof of his author's veracity, but the Panjāb Museum has since acquired four silver issues of the Shāhjahānābād mint which are all of the

4th regnal year, 1170 A.H. (P.M.C. Nos. 2790-93), and on which these magniloquent lines are inscribed. I have recently received from Lieut. -Col. Nevill rubbings of two puzzling coins, the attribution of which to this Emperor is fixed by the presence of the words مهر و مایه and عزیز الدین, although the date is 1181 A.H. !<sup>1</sup>

The well-known couplet of Shāh 'Ālam II's coins—

سکه زد بر هفت کشور سایه فضل اله حامی دین محمد شاه عالم بادشاه

is given in the *Miftāh* (p. 361, eleven lines from foot). The translator of the *Siyar-i-Mulākhkhirin* also cites it and adds that "these verses were made extempore by Mir Mehdi-qhan—a Persian Secretary of his acquaintance." (Reprint, 1902, II, 336 note.) This couplet, as well as the later variant, in which the first hemistich is—

سکه صاحب قرانی زد ز تائید اله \*

is quoted by the conscientious compiler of the *Mukhtasar-i-Siyar-i-Gulshan-i-Hind*. (Rodgers, *loc. cit.*, 31.)

Beale says that Ghulām Qādir ordered to be struck in the name of Bidār Shāh coins on which the following lines were inscribed :—

حامی دین نبی بیدار شاه سکه زد در هند از فضل اله

*Miftāh*, 361, l. 10.

Rodgers informs us that the following couplet is said by the author of the *Mukhtasar-i-Siyar-i-Gulshan-i-Hind* to have been stamped on the coins of Akbar II.

سکه زد در جهان ز فضل اله حامی دین محمد اکبر شاه

Journal, Asiatic Society of Bengal, 1888, p. 32.

Very similar words, have, it should be stated, been actually found on a rupee bearing the name of Muḥammad Akbar and struck in the first year of his reign (سنه احد). But the Hijri date is clearly given as 1203, which is hardly reconcilable with what is generally known of the history of the period. The coin is in the Panjāb Museum, and is described in the Catalogue (No. 3277), but left as unassigned. More recently copper-coins leaving no doubt as to the correctness

<sup>1</sup> Rodgers, who may be truly said to have been 'easily first' in the decipherment and interpretation of these poetical trifles, has very justly remarked that they are "helpful in the assigning of coins to their proper strikers" \* \* \* On some coins, only part of the inscription comes. A few words from the couplet enable us to assign the coin to the proper King. Besides all these couplets are historical compositions. They show us the vanity and ignorance of the kings who used them, and the flattery and ignorance of those who made them." (J.A.S.B., LVII, 1888, p. 33.)



of the reading of the Hijrī date have come into the possession of Mr. Whitehead, and I have been able to find in Seton-Karr's 'Selections from the Calcutta Gazettes' some contemporary evidence of Akbar II having been set up as King or Emperor for a time, in 1203 A.H.<sup>1</sup>

Further, Beale declares that the *Bait-i-Sikka* of Akbar II was thus worded :—

بسیم و زر زده خورشید سکه جهانبانی چراغ دودۀ تیمور اکبر ثانی

*Miftāh*, 375 last line.

According to the same author, the couplet of Akbar's son and successor Bahādur Shāh was the following :—

بسیم و زر زده شد سکه بفضل اله سراج دین ابوظفر شد بهادر شاه

*Ibid*, 394, nine lines from foot.

It may be perhaps necessary to add that no coin of Bīdār Bakht has been discovered bearing the couplet assigned to him by Beale—and the same may be said with regard to Akbar II and Bahādur Shāh II. But Beale was a most accurate and painstaking writer and he was besides a contemporary of the last two Emperors. His book was first lithographed at Āgra in 1849 (E.D. VIII, 444), and at his death in 1875, he had reached a very advanced age. He is not likely to have made these statements without possessing any authority, and it is not improbable that he had seen some rare coins answering to his descriptions.

I cannot conclude this note without a few observations on the manner in which these metrical legends should be set out and correctly transcribed in our coin-catalogues. On the coins themselves, the words of the '*Baits*' are often arranged, and even divided or cut up without any regard for sense, syntax, metre or rhyme, according to the whim or caprice of the engraver or his own notions of calligraphic elegance. As a rule, the verse commences at the bottom and is to be read from below upwards, but sometimes the first word is to be found at the top and we have to follow it from above downwards. This lawlessness makes no small addition to the difficulty of correct decipherment. A cursory examination of our most recent catalogues will suffice to show that there is considerable room for improvement in reference to the transcription of the couplets in the order required by the rules of Persian Prosody. It is more than fifty years since Blochmann examined the readings proposed in the *Numismata Orientalia* of

<sup>1</sup> This evidence has been fully set out in an article which will be published very shortly, along with Mr. Whitehead's own description of the coins, in one of the Numismatic Supplements. The mint-name on the copper coins, *Dārū-s-Surūr-i-Sahāranpūr* goes far to confirm the connection of Ghulām Qādir with these hitherto inexplicable issues.

Marsden "from a metrical point of view," and showed from Marsden's errors how necessary "it was even for numismatians, to take care of the *Ars Poetica*, when describing the coins of the Moghul-Dynasty of India and the Çafawis of Persia" (Proceedings, A.S.B. 1869, p. 260). Rodgers seems to have profited by the warning, and sought and obtained the counsel and assistance of two Maulavis of the Calcutta Mad-rassa in compiling his valuable articles on these poetical effusions, (J.A.S.B. 1888, pp. 18, 27 notes). Mr. Lane Poole also has publicly acknowledged the help he received in "reading and interpreting the Persian Distichs" from Dr. Rieu and Mr. Reginald Stuart Poole (B.M.C. Introd. cxix). But the compilers of more modern catalogues who have had to work without such expert advice have frequently gone astray or been obliged to content themselves with reproducing the words just as they are engraved on the coins, without venturing to arrange them in the order required. Here again, we receive valuable guidance from the annalists and their statements both provide useful corrections of error and reinforce Blochmann's contention and warning. It will suffice to give a few instances.

The first line of the Kām Bakhsh couplet has been often given as

سکه زد در کن به خورشید و ماه

This is undoubtedly wrong. Khāfi Khān has it correctly thus:—

در دکن زد سکه نبر خورشید و ماه

Similarly, the first hemistich of one of Jahāndār's *hails* has been set out as—

سکه زد در آفاق چون مهر و ماه

which is erroneous. The transcription given by the scholarly author of the *Mirāt-i-Aḥmadī* leaves no doubt that the true order is—

در آفاق زد سکه چون مهر و ماه

The metre is common *Mutaqārib*.

Lastly, the first line of the Raf'ū-d-darajāt distich should not be read as—

سکه زد بپند با هزاران برکات

but

زد سکه بپند با هزاران برکات

and that is the form in which it appears in the *Mirāt-i-Aḥmadī* as well as the *Miftāḥ-i-lawāriḥ* of Beale, who was himself a prolific composer of the poetical chronograms called 'Tārikhs' (See Rodgers' article on the subject in J.R.A.S. 1898, pp. 716, 738.)

## XXIV. THE KHUTBA AND THE SIKKA.

The "exaggerated importance" universally attributed by the accredited exponents of the history as well as polity of Islām to the merely formal prerogatives of sovereignty described as the 'Khutba and the Sikka' is matter of common knowledge. The proclamation of the regnant appellation and titles of the actual occupant of the throne or of a presumptive claimant to the *masnad* in the Friday prayers, and the stamping of money inscribed with his *Alqāb* were universally regarded as manifestoes of unchallenged supremacy or incontrovertible proofs of rebellion and treason. I have, in another article, collected and brought under one view all those passages in which our authorities record the dates on which the regular Emperors ascended the throne or on which the Imperial titles were assumed by pretenders, puppets and claimants. I must now invite attention to several others in which the historians of the dynasty exultingly proclaim that the *khutba* was recited and coins struck in this or that town or province or country in the name of a particular Emperor to mark the occasion of its conquest or acquisition by his arms. It is perhaps necessary to say that all these notices have not the same historical significance. They are often only empty boasts, records of a momentary triumph after a casual incursion or temporary raid. They sometimes imply merely the formal acknowledgment of allegiance on the part of the hereditary chief of the district and occasionally they mean nothing but a nominal concession of supremacy on his part to ward off an invasion or terminate a period of stress. But besides such notices of permanent or temporary conquest, there are passages in which it is recorded that this or that individual governor or subordinate ruler had the *khutbā* recited and coins stamped with his own name in some district or division of the empire to announce publicly his independence and arrogation of sovereign authority.

It will be observed that several of these announcements are not undeserving of the attention of the coin-hunter. We are told, for instance, that coins were struck in the name of Akbar at Nagarkot and Katak and also by Sulaimān Kararānī in Bengal. We are also informed exactly of the year in which money emblazoned with the titles of the Second *Shāh Qirān*—*Shāh Jahān*—was first uttered at Daulatābād, Gulkanda, Qandahār and Balkh and the fact of the "numismatic memorials" of the conquest of 'Ālamgirnagar (Āssām and Kūch Bihār) and Tibet having been presented to Aurangzeb is also recorded.

Some of these mintages are not represented either in our museums or private collections, and it may be permissible to express the hope that the prominence given to them in this chapter may directly or indirectly promote their eventual discovery, or at least contribute something towards the decipherment of their legends or the determination of the mint-names.

*Khuṭba* recited in the name of Hindāl at Āgra in 945 A.H., but nothing is said about the striking of coins *Akbarnāma*, Trans., I, 338; *Tūzuk-i-Jahāngiri*, Tr. I.

Coins struck by Mirzā Haidar in Kashmīr in the name of Nāzuk Shāh after the conquest of the province in 939 A.H. *Akbarnāma*, Trans., I, 405; Text, I, 198.

*Khuṭba* recited by Mirzā Haidar in Kashmīr in the name of Humāyūn after the conquest of Kābul by the latter, 952 A.H. *Ibid.* Tr., I, 405; Text, I, 198.

*Khuṭba* read in Kāmran's name in Kābul and Qandahār A.H. 948 or 949. *Tabaqāt-i-Akbarī*. Text, 206, I, 3; *Akb. Nām.* Trans., I, 407; Text, I, 199.

Coins struck in the name of Kāmran at Badakhshān, 947 or 948 A.H. *Akb. Nām.* Trans., I, 408; Text, I, 200.

*Khuṭba* read in the name of Mirzā Sulaimān at Kābul in 963 A.H. *Tab. Akb.* Text, 243, last line = Elliot and Dowson, V. 248; *Badāonī*, Text, II, 12; Lowe's Trans. II, 5; *Akb. Nām.* Trans., II, 43; Text, II, 25.

*Khuṭba* recited and coins struck in the name of Akbar at Nagarkot in 980 A.H. *Tab. Akbarī*, Text, 304, l. 2 = ED. V. 359; *Badāonī*, Text, II, 163; Tr., II, 166.

Jalālud-dīn Sūr had had coins struck in his own name in Bengal. *Badāonī*, Text, II, 192; Trans., II, 195.

Bahādur son of Sa'id Badakhshī had the *Khuṭba* read and coins struck in his own name in Tirhut and took the title of Bahādur Shāh 989 A.H. *Badāonī*, Text, II, 298; Trans., II, 307. See also *Iqbāl-nāma* quoted by Beveridge, *Akb. Nām.* Tr., III; 451, note.

*Khuṭba* read by Sulaimān Kararānī in Bengal in 977 A.H., but he did not afterwards observe the conditions of the treaty. *Akb. Nām.* Text, II, 324; Trans., II, 477.

*Khuṭba* recited in the name of Mirzā Muḥammad Ḥakīm by the rebels in Bengal (XXV R. 988 A.H.) *Akb. Nām.* Text, III, 304; Trans., III, 449.

Y'aqūb of Kashmīr rebels and takes the title of Shāh Ism'ail. *Akb. Nām.* Text, III, 502; Tr., III, 762.

Coins struck in Akbar's name at Jalesar (Jellalore) in Orissa (XXXVII R.). *Akb. Nām.* Text, III, 615; Tr., III, 940.

Coins struck in the name of Shāh Jahān at Daulatābād [1041 A.H. 5 R.] *Bādīshāhnāma*, Text, I, i. 429.

Coins struck in the name of Shāh Jahān at Gulkanda (1045 A.H. 9 R.) *Ibid.* I, ii. 145, 178; *Khāfi Khān*, Text, I, 523.

Coins struck in the name of Shāh Jahān at Qandahār (XI R, 1047 A.H.) *Bād. Nām.* II, 34, 39, 94; *Khāfi Khān*, I, 556.

Coins struck in the name of Shāh Jahān at Balkh, XX R 1056 A.H.; *Bād. Nām.* II, 562; *Khāfi Khān*, I, 639.

The Jām of Nawānagar who used to strike Maḥmūdīs in the name of Muẓaffar III. compelled to abandon the practice. *Bād. Nām.* II, 232; *Khāfi Khān*, I, 583.

Coins struck in the name of Aurangzeb in (Great) Tibet. 'Ālamgīrnāma, Text, 922; *Maāḡir-i-Ālamgīrī*, 52; *Khāfi Khān*, II, 185.

Coins struck in the name of Aurangzeb at 'Ālamgīrnagar, i.e. Kūch Bihār (IV R). 'Ālam. *Nām.* 694; *Maāḡ.* 'Ālam. 40; *Khāfi Khān* II, 137, 153 (1071 A.H.).

Coins struck in the name of Aurangzeb at Bījāpūr in 1091 A.H. *Maāḡir-i-Ālamgīrī*, 192.

Coins struck in his own name by the rebel Aimal *Khān* Afghān. *Khāfi Khān* II, 233 (1079 A.H.).

Rāja Shivājī coins huns and coppers. *Khāfi Khān*, II, 177 (1074 A.H.).

The rebel Prince Muḥammad Akbar coins money in his own name (1089 A.H.). *Khāfi Khān* II, 266.

The English in Bombay strike money in the name of their own Pādishāh. *Ibid.* II, 423.

*Khuṭba* recited in the name of Bahādur Shāh Shāh 'Ālam I at Qandahār (Afghānistān) in 1119 A.H. *Khāfi Khān*, II, 644.

Coins struck in the name of 'Ālamgīr II, by Aḥmad Shāh Abdālī's rebellious viceroy Sakjīvan [?] some time after 1167 A.H. *Maāḡiru-l-Umarā*, II, 721, l. 10.

## XXV. CONSPECTUS OF PASSAGES.

### Baburnāma.

*Pers. Tr. Bombay Lith.,  
1308 A.H.*

*Eng. Tr. Leyden and Erskine.  
(Reprint 1921.)  
„ „ A. S. Beveridge.*

Text. (Pers. Trans.).	Trans. Leyden and Erskine.	Trans. A. S. Beveridge.	
16	I. 41	43	Gold and silver almonds and pistachios sent as gifts after a wedding. 179
37	I. 96	93	One thousand <i>Tumān-i-fulūs</i> assigned for maintenance to Shaikh 'Abdulla Birlās. 186
89	I. 243	221	Revenues of Kābul from all sources, eight lacs of Shāhrukhīs. 1
117	II. 4	296	Bābur takes three hundred <i>Tumān-i-Kipkī</i> from the Turks of Bādghīs (Khūrāsān). 187
136	II. 59	344	Bābur styles himself <i>Pādishāh</i> . 291
141	II. 92-3	379	Shāhrukhīs paid by the <i>Jūd</i> and <i>Janjūha</i> and the Nilābīs (2 passages) (see also Elliot-Dowson, IV, 231). 1-2
143	II. 98	383	Ransom of four lacs of Shāhrukhīs imposed on the people of Bhīra (E. D. IV, 233). 2
148	II. 112	394	One hundred Miṣqāls of silver presented to certain Afghān Chiefs.
151	II. 119	400	Sāchiq (Wedding-gift) of one thousand Shāhrukhīs. 2
155	II. 128	408	Sāchiq (Offering or Nazar) of one thousand Shāhrukhīs. 2
159	II. 139	417	One hundred Shāhrukhīs given for buying wine, etc., for a banquet 2
160	II. 142	421	Tribute of the Najrāo people fixed at 60 gold Miṣqāls (مئال طلا). 2
163	II. 155	446	Gold Ashrafs and Tankas to the value of 20,000 Shāhrukhīs sent from the Lāhor revenues to Bābur in Kābul. 2-3
176	II. 190	476	<i>Khutba</i> read at Dehli in Bābur's name = E.D. IV, 257. 261

Text. (Pers. Trans.).	Trans. Leyden and Erskine.	Trans. A. S. Beveridge.	
177	II. 193	477	Ransom of four lacs of Shāhrukhīs imposed on the people of Bhīra (E. D. IV, 258). 3
177	II. 192	478	Diamond weighing eight Miṣqāls presented to Humāyūn by the relatives of Raja Bikrāmajit. 3
204	II. 240	517-8	Weights and measures of Hindustān. (Rātī, Tānk, Tola, Sēr, etc.) 104
..	II. 244 n.	521	Revenues of Hindustān: <i>Silver Tankas, Tankas and Black Tankas</i> mentioned. (E. D. IV, 262). 104
206	II. 246	523	Bābur sends a gift of one Shāhrukhī to every soul in the country of Kābul. 3
214	II. 307	574	Bābur assumes the title of Ghāzī. 292
229		631	Offerings of Red, White and Black money from Amīrs. 292
229	II. 359	632	Ambassadors presented with a silver-stone's weight (تاش) of gold and a gold-stone's weight of silver at the audience of leave. 61
232	II. 368 <sup>1</sup>	642	Ten thousand Shāhrukhīs sent to Humāyūn and Kāmran as presents ( <i>Sāchig</i> ). 3

### Tārīkh-i-Rashīdī.

*Mirzā Haidar Dughlāt.* Trans. N. Elias and Ross. 1895.

Trans.

173	Bābur was given the <i>laqab</i> Zahiru-d-dīn soon after birth. Reason of the name Bābur. 291
202	Shāhrukhīs.
256	"A <i>bālīsh</i> is 500 Mithkāl (of silver) made into a long brick with a depression in the middle." 61
402	Bābur took the title of Ghāzī after defeating Sāngā. 293
469	Kāmran raised the author's salary from 15 to 50 lacs. One lac of Hindustān is worth 20,000 Shāhrukhīs. "A current Shāhrukhī is worth one Mithkāl of silver." 8
475	Date of Humāyūn's defeat at Qanauj. <sup>2</sup> 263

<sup>1</sup> In the Text, the references are to the original Edition of 1826, which is now exceedingly scarce and almost inaccessible. Here, the pagination given is that of the two-volume Reprint edited recently (1921) by Sir Lucas King.

<sup>2</sup> The author was a cousin of the Emperor Bābur. He was present

## Memoirs of Jauhar.

Written about 1590 A.C.

Translated by Stewart.

Trans.

21	Date of the Battle of Qanauj.	263
44	Akbar was given the name of <i>Badru-d-dīn</i> as he was born on the Full Moon [ بدر ] of Sh'abān, '949 A.H.	295
45	Two hundred Shāhrukhs entrusted by Humāyūn to Jauhar for safe keeping.	4
49	Shāhrukhs.	4
66	Fine of one Tumān for each animal allowed to escape in the chase.	188
88	Ten Tumāns given by Humāyūn to a follower.	189
106	Shāhrukhi mentioned as a coin of small value.	5
120	Date of Humāyūn's death. <sup>1</sup>	

## Humāyūn Nāma.<sup>2</sup>

Gulbadan Begam.

Ed. and Tr. A.S. Beveridge.

Text.

Trans.

6	86	One thousand Tankas each of one Miṣqāl ( <i>Tanka-i-Miṣqālī</i> in Text) paid for a burial ground by Bābur.	8
9	90	Bābur takes the title of Pādishāh.	292
10	92	Ransom of four lacs of Shāhrukhs imposed on the people of Bhira by Bābur.	3
12	95	Trays full of Ashrafs and Shāhrukhs sent as presents to the Begams in Kābul by Bābur.	3-4
13	96	Large Ashrafi weighing three Imperial Sēr or fifteen Sēr of Hind sent as a present by Bābur to 'Asas in Kābul.	62
18	102	Khalifa and his wife present 5,000 and 3,000 Shāhrukhs to Gulbadan Begam.	4
24	109	Date of Bābur's death.	262
25	110	Date of Humāyūn's coronation.	262
26	110	Five lacs were charged on Bayāna for the maintenance of Bābur's tomb.	

at the battle of Qanauj and afterwards became virtual ruler of Kashmīr. He was killed by a party of conspirators in 958 A.H., 1551 A.C. (Elliot and Dowson, Vol. V, 129).

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Beveridge who has seen the original says the date is *not* given in the manuscript in the British Museum (*Akbarnāma*, Tr. I. 4).

<sup>2</sup> Written about 1590 A.C. The authoress died at the age of eighty in 1603 A.C. (Mrs. Beveridge's Tr. Introd. p. 77).



Text	Trans.
27	112 Gold and silver <i>filberts</i> , walnuts and almonds made for Niṣār. 179
34	124 Niṣār of Ashrafs and Shāhrukhīs at Hindāl's wedding. 4
53	151 Humāyūn gave Mir Abūl Baqā two lacs of <i>ready money</i> for the <i>nikāḥāna</i> (dowry) of Ḥamīda Bānū Begam.
58	157 Tardī Beg lent Humāyūn 80,000 <i>Ashrafīs</i> at 20 per cent ( <i>deh dū</i> ). 246
77	178 Twenty Shāhrukhīs equal to five Miṣqāls staked by each player at a card-game. 8
95	200 Salīm Shāh Sūr gave Kāmraṇ only 1,000 <i>rupees</i> as a present.

## History of Gujarāt.

*Abū Turāb Walī.*

*Bibl. Ind. Edition,*  
1909 A.C.

Text.

- 12 Bahādur Shāh Gujarātī gives Tātār Khān Lodī twenty krór Tankas of the old money (زر قديم) which would be equivalent to thirty krórs and fifty lacs Murādī (cf. *Akb. Nām*. Tr. I. 296 and note).
- 27 Humāyūn gave to the father and uncle of the author, out of the treasures of Champāner, about 1,80,000 Maḥmūdīs equivalent to 75,000 rupees. (963 A.H.) 125
- 38 'Imādu-l-Mulk—a Gujarāt noble—raised a large army by giving to every man who brought three horses (سه اسب) a jāgīr of one lac (Gujarātī) *Tankas* (cf. *Akb. Nām*. Tr. I. 313).
- 88 Shaikh Muzaḥḥar the Sadr of Gujarāt accused of taking a bribe of 12,000 Maḥmūdīs (980 A.H.). 126
- 103 Ten thousand Maḥmūdīs sent to Muzaḥḥar III (the deposed Sulṭān of Gujarāt) and Sherkhān Fulādī for expenses by 'Atabāru-l-Mulk, a Gujarāt Noble.<sup>1</sup>

126

<sup>1</sup> The author was a Gujarāt Noble who entered the Imperial service after the conquest of the province. He was appointed *Mīr-i-Hājj*—Chief of the Pilgrims' Caravan—in 985 A.H. and *Amin-i-Šūba*—Deputy Governor of Gujarāt—in 992 A.H. 1583 A.C. He died in 1003 A.H. or according to another account, in 1005 A.H. (*Bibl. Ind. Ed. Introd.* p. iii-iv).

## Ṭabaqāt-i-Akbarī.

Lucknow Lith.

Elliot and  
Text. Dowson  
Vol. V.

179	..	Style and titles of Bābur.	291
185	..	Hisār Firūza and its dependencies with a (revenue) of one kror given to Humāyūn. <sup>1</sup>	
187	..	Khuṭba read in Bābur's name at Dehli	261
187	..	Seventy lacs given to Humāyūn from the treasures of the Lodīs.	
187	..	Present of one <i>Shāhrukhī</i> sent for every resident of Kābul, etc.	3
192	..	Date of Bābur's death.	262
194	188	Date of Humāyūn's coronation.	262
202	205	Date of Humāyūn's defeat at Qanauj.	263
206	..	Kāmraṇ has the khuṭba read in his own name at Kābul, Qandahār and Ghazni (952 A.H.)	
221	239	Khuṭba read again in Humāyūn's name in Hindūstān.	263
222	240	Date of Humāyūn's death.	264
222	242	Date of Akbar's Coronation.	265
239	..	Muḥammad 'Adil Sūr scatters <i>Tankas</i> among the people at his accession.	178
242	..	Akbar's style and titles.	294
242	247	Date of Akbar's coronation.	265
242	247	Initial day of the <i>Tārīkh-i-Ilāhī</i> .	11
243	249	Khuṭba read in Mirzā Sulaimān's name in Kābul (963 A.H.).	331
245	..	Niṣār of coins at Akbar's coronation.	179
257	276	Seven lacs of <i>Tankas</i> given to Sayyad Beg, ambassador of Shāh Ṭahmāsp. N.S. XXVIII, 81.	
265	295	Three <i>krors</i> of <i>Tankas</i> spent on building the Fortress of Āgra. N.S. XXVIII, 81, 92.	
278	332-3	Foundation of Fathpūr, 976-977 A.H. (XIV R).	
288	334	Two lacs of <i>Tankas</i> given to Khwāja Husain Marwī for a Qasida. N.S. XXVIII, 81. <sup>2</sup>	

<sup>1</sup> In this and several other passages large sums are mentioned by this author as well as by Bābur and Badāonī without any qualifying monetary denomination. "One Kror," "Three Krors," "One Kror and twenty lacs," "Ten Krors," ( *دس کور* ) or "twenty-five krors of ready money" are common expressions. It would be unprofitable to indulge in any positive statements about such a matter, but the context would seem to show that the denomination meant is the Sikandari *Tanka* (Double Dām), Dām or some other unit of low value.

<sup>2</sup> In the *Muntakhabu-t-Tawārīkh* of Khāshī Shīrāzī (written 1019 A.H.) the *in'ām* is explicitly said to have been "two lacs of *Tankas* or ten

Text.	Elliot and Dowson Vol. V.	
291	338	Jāgir of fifty lacs of Tankas given to Muḥibb 'Alī Khān. N.S. XXVIII, 81.
300	353	Jāgir of (two krors and) fifty lacs of Tankas given to Muẓaffar Khān ( <i>not</i> Gujarātī). N.S. XXVIII, 81.
304	359	Khutba read and coins struck in Akbar's name at Nagarkot (XVIII R), 980 A.H. 331
..	..	Niṣār of gold and silver coins on the head of the <i>Khafīb</i> .
308	..	War-cry of Yā Mu'iyyan at battle of Ahmadābād, 980 A.H. 169
309	..	Ditto ditto ditto 169
311	..	Niṣār on Akbar's return to Fathpūr after defeating the Mirzās.
311	..	Niṣār at the Princes' circumcision.
312	370-1	Debts amounting to one lac of Akbarshāhi Rupees or 500 Tumāns of 'Irāq paid out of the State Treasury. N.S. XXVIII, 87.
313	..	The Khwāja of Ajmer was the <i>Mu'iyyan wa Nāṣir</i> of the <i>Pādishāh</i> ('Helper and Protector of the Emperor'). <sup>1</sup>
323	383	Officers called Kroris appointed in charge of tracts of land yielding a revenue of one kror <i>Tankas</i> a-piece. <sup>2</sup> N.S. XXVIII, 81.
..	..	Price of grain (عَلّٰ) one hundred and twenty <i>Tanka-i-Siyāh</i> during a famine in Gujarāt. N.S. XXVIII, 81.
341	409	Reservoir at Fathpūr filled with red, white and black money amounting to twenty krors of Tankas. <i>Ibid.</i> <sup>3</sup> 195
342	411	One hundred Akbarshāhi Ashrafis, fifteen hundred rupees and 24,000 <i>Murādī Tankas</i> presented to Khwāja 'Abdulla envoy of 'Adil Khān. N.S. XXVIII, 82-3.

thousand rupees," which shows that the word is here used for the *Sikandarī* Tanka (quoted in *Khazāna-i-Āmīra*, p. 411).

<sup>1</sup> This and the statements at pp. 308 and 309 *ante* seem to show that the amphibological invocation *Yā Mu'iyyan* on the Muhrs of Akbar refers more to the Khwāja of Ajmer than to God (The 'Helper'), cf. *Akbar-nāma*, Tr. III. 82.

<sup>2</sup> Abūl Faẓl has "one kror of *Tankas*" in the corresponding passage in the *Akbar-nāma* (Tr. III. 167), but "one kror of *Dāms*" in the *Āin* (Tr. I. 13).

<sup>3</sup> Abūl Faẓl has 34 krors of *Dāms* (*Akb. Nām.* Tr. III. 354). Jahāngīr gives a total of one kror and three lacs of rupees, i.e. about 41 krors of *Dāms*. This would indicate that the word is here used for the *Sikandarī* Tanka =  $\frac{1}{30}$  of a rupee (*vide Tūzūk*, Tr. II. 68-9).

Text.	Elliot and Dowson Vol V		
343	..	Akbar's style and titles in a contemporary Mahzar dated 987 A.H.	294
350	423	Atak Banāras founded (XXVII R.Y.).	
359	437	Ilāhabās founded (XXIX R.Y.).	
360	438	Muzaffar Gujarātī sends one lac of <i>Mahmūdīs</i> , etc., to Amln Khān Ghori, the Hākīm of Sorath and also to Jām Satarsāl of Nawā-nagar.	126
366	..	Two krons of Tankas fixed as the <i>mahr</i> or dower of Jahāngīr's first wife, Rāja Bhagwān-dās's daughter. N.S. XXVIII, 81.	
370	453	Four lacs of Tankas equal to five hundred Tumāns of 'Irāq given to Naẓar Beg. N.S. XXVIII, 83.	
371	455	Presents of the value of three thousand, seven hundred Tumāns of 'Irāq, equal to <i>about</i> one lac and a half of rupees sent to 'Abdulla Khān, the ruler of Balkh. N.S. XXVIII, 87.	
377	462	Yādgār calls himself Sultān and has the Khuṭba recited in his own name in Kashmīr.	
379	467	In'ām of one kror <i>Tanka-i-Murādī</i> given to Mirzā Rustam Ṣafavī. N.S. XXVIII, 84. <sup>1</sup>	

## Muntakhabu-t-Tawārīkh.

VOL. I.

*Badāonī.*

*Bibl. Ind. Text, 1868.*

*Trans. G. S. Ranking.*

Text.	Trans.		
333	439	Hiṣār Firūza with a revenue of two krons given to Humāyūn.	
335	441	Date of the Battle of Pānīpat.	261
336	442	Khuṭba read in Bābur's name at Dehli on the same day.	261
341	447	Date of Bābur's death.	262
350	459	Mirzā Hindāl has the Khuṭba read in his own name (945 A.H.).	331
354	464	Date of the Battle of Qanauf.	263
418	537	Muḥammad 'Adil Sūr orders arrows tipped with gold worth five hundred Tankas each to be thrown among the people of Dehli.	178

<sup>1</sup> This work must have been completed before the 23rd of Ṣafar 1002 A.H. (XXXIX R) on which day the author died. (*Badāonī*, Tr. Lowe. II. 412).

Text.	Trans.		
433	556	Khizr Khān, son of Muḥammad Khān Gauria calls himself Sulṭān Muḥammad Bahādur and strikes coins in his own name in Bengal (962 A.H.). <sup>1</sup>	
462	596	Restoration of Humāyūn.	263
465-6	600-1	Date of Humāyūn's accident and death.	264
476	617	Five Shāhrukhīs bid for a worthless old <i>Posteen</i> at an auction in Kābul (story).	5

## VOL. II.

## Badāoni.

## Bibl. Ind. Text, II.

## Trans. Lowe, II.

Text.	Trans.		
8	1	Date of Akbar's coronation.	265
12	5	Khuṭba read in Mirzā Sulaimān's name at Kābul (963 A.H.).	331
20	13	Nigār and Igār at Bairam Khān's marriage to Salma Sulṭān Begam.	179
41	36	One kror of money ( یک کror زر ) spent on the jewelled banner ( علم مرصع ) made by Bairam Khān for Imām Rizā's shrine at Mashhad.	
41	36	Sixty thousand <i>Tankas</i> , afterwards increased to one lac, paid to Hāsham Qandahārī for a Ghazal by Bairam Khān. N.S. XXVIII, 82.	
42	37	One lac <i>Tankas</i> given on one day to Rāmdās Kalāwant by Bairam Khān for his music. N.S. XXVIII, 82.	
42	37	One lac <i>Tankas</i> (Naqd) given to Hijāz Khān Badāoni by Bairam Khān for a <i>Qasida</i> . <i>Ibid.</i>	
52	40	Seven lacs of <i>Tankas</i> given to Sayyad Beg, ambassador of Shāh Tahmāsp <i>Ibid.</i>	
68	68	Gold coins were struck in Gujarāt by Changiz Khān during the period of his ascendancy (story).	
74	75	Three krots of money ( سه کror زر ) <sup>2</sup> spent on building the fortress of Agra. N.S. XXVIII, 82. <sup>3</sup>	
120	124	Two lacs of <i>Tankas</i> in money (Naqd) given by	

<sup>1</sup> Bahādur Shāh's coins are extant. (Wright I.M.C. II, p. 181.)

<sup>2</sup> The word in the original is زر. Lowe's translation is loose and inaccurate.

<sup>3</sup> This is borrowed from the *Ṭabaqāt-i-Akbari* (Text, p. 265), but the aggregate cost is given by the author of the *Haft-Iqlīm* and the Emperor Jahāngir as 'seven krots of *Tankas* or thirty-five lacs of rupees.' (*Vide Tūzūk*, Tr. I. 3.)

Text.	Trans.	
		Akbar to Khwāja Husain Marwī for a Qasida. <i>Ibid.</i>
149	153	Jāgir of two krors and a half (دو نیم کور) given to Muẓaffar Khān. <i>Ibid.</i>
163	166	Khutba read and coins struck in Akbar's name at Nagarkot (980 A.H.). 331
167	170	War-cry of Ya Mu'yyan (981 A.H.).
168	171	Ditto ditto. ditto.
179	182	Niṣār of pearls on Akbar's head in Mun'im Khān's camp at Patna. 179
185	188	Jāgir of one kror, twenty lacs given to Husain Khān Tukriya. <sup>1</sup>
186	189	Price of Jowār 120 . <i>Tanka-i-Siyāh</i> during famine in Gujarāt. N.S. XXVIII, 82.
189	192	Revenue Officers (Krorīs) appointed in charge of as much land as would yield one kror of <i>Tankas</i> of revenue <sup>2</sup> N.S. XXVIII, 82.
192	195	Jalālu-d-dīn Sūr had been at one time <i>Ṣāhib-i-Khutba wa Sikka in Bengal</i> . <sup>3</sup> 331
210	213	Discussion about stamping the words <i>Allāhu Akbar</i> on coins. 81
265	273	Reservoir filled with copper coins (زر سیاه) to the value of twenty <i>Krors</i> . N.S. XXVIII, 82. 195
270	278	Niṣār of gold and precious stones when Quṭb-u-d-dīn Khān was appointed Prince Salīm's Atāliq. 179
298	307	Bahādur, son of Sa'id Badakhshī, calls himself Bahādur Shah and has the <i>Khutba</i> recited and coins struck in his own name in Tirhut. <sup>4</sup> 331
301	310	The date <i>Al/</i> ordered to be inscribed on coins (XXVII, R).
306	316	Establishment of the Ilāhī Era. 11
313	323	Qāzī Jalāl Multānī banished for forging an order on the Treasury for five lacs of <i>Tankas</i> . N.S. XXVIII, 82.
331	341	Quṭbu-d-din Khān's wealth (ten krors) seized by Muẓaffar Gujarāti.
335	345	Rāja Rāmchand Bāghela had given one kror

<sup>1</sup> Lowe adds "of rupees," but the interpolation is unwarranted. The author most probably meant *Tankas* i.e. *Dāms*.

<sup>2</sup> Abūl Fazl has one kror *Dāms* in *Āin*, (Tr. I, 13) but *Tankas* in *Akb. Nām.*, (Tr. III, 167).

<sup>3</sup> Coins struck by him are extant. Wright, I.M.C. II, p. 181.

<sup>4</sup> The fact is mentioned in the *Iqbāl-nāma-i-Jahāngirī* also. (Beveridge, *Akbarnāma*, Tr. III, 451 note.)

Text. Trans.

- of money <sup>1</sup> ( یک کرور زر ) to Miyān Tānsen Kalāwant on one day.
- 335 345 Verse-motto ( سجع سکه ) composed of by Sharif Sarmadī for the coins of Ilāhabād. 315
- 338 349 'Shast' given by Akbar to the members of the *Dīn-i-Ilāhī*. 150
- 341 352 Two krors of Tankas fixed as the Mahr or dower of Rāja Bhagwāndās's daughter. N.S. XXVIII, 82.
- 341 352 Niṣār on the pālki ( پالکی ) of the *bride*. 179
- 343 353 Officers ordered to offer 'Peshkash,' 'Nazar' and 'Niāz' on the Nauroz of 993 A.H.
- 352 363 Four lacs of Tankas equal to five hundred Tumāns of 'Irāq given to Nazar Beg. N.S. XXVIII, 83.
- 356 367 *Allāhu Akbar—Jalla Jalāluhu* established as the new forms of salutation (*Salām* and *Jawāb-i-Salām*). 46-7
- 358 370 Muẓaffar Gujarātī sends one lac Maḥmūdīs, etc, to Amīn Khān Ghori of Sorath and also to the Jām Satarsāl 127
- 374 387 Shaikh Ibrāhīm Chishtī dies leaving *twenty-five krors of ready money*. ( مبلغ نقد )
- 380 393 Regulations about old and worn coins (cf. *Āīn*, Tr. I, 32-5). 131
- 388 402 One kror *Tanka-i-Murādī* in cash ( نقد ) given to Mirzā Rustam. N.S. XXVIII, 84.
- 402 416 Ten thousand *Tanka-i-Murādī* given as *In'ām* to Badāonī himself. *Ibid.*, 85.<sup>2</sup>

## Āīn-i-Akbarī.

VOL. I.

Bibl. Ind. Text,  
1877.

Trans. H. Blochmann.

Text. Trans.

- 10 13 Zealous and upright men put in charge of the revenues each over one kror of *Dāms* (kroris).

<sup>1</sup> Lowe translates زر by "gold pieces," but this is manifestly wrong. Cf. *Akb. Nām*, Tr. II, 280, note, where it is said that Akbar gave Tānsen at his first assembly one kror of *Dāms* equal to two lacs of rupees or 6,000 Persian Tumāns.

<sup>2</sup> The author is believed to have died in 1595, A.C. 1004 A.H. (Blochmann, J.A.S.B. 1869, p. 143), soon after completing his *History*.

Text.	Trans.		
10	13	Old and worn coins to be accepted at their real value by the collectors of revenue.	131
11	14	A kror of Dāms kept always in readiness in the palace in bags (called <i>Sahsa</i> ) containing one thousand in each. N.S. XXVIII, 85.	
12	16	Weights of precious stones, etc., in the Imperial Treasury given in <i>Tānks</i> and <i>Surkhs</i> ( <i>Ratīs</i> ).	108.
12	16	<i>Sūkī</i> equal to one-twentieth of a rupee.	50
14	18	Degree of purity of the Hūn of Southern India and of the small gold <i>Dīnār</i> of 'Alāu-d-dīn Khiljī.	235
17	21	Half-quarter Dāms called <i>Damrīs</i> .	52
19	23	Degrees of purity of various silver coins, the <i>Shāhī</i> of 'Irāq and <i>Khurāsān</i> , the <i>Lārī</i> the <i>Miṣqālī</i> of Tūrān, the European and Turkish <i>Narjīl</i> , and the <i>Mahmūdīs</i> and <i>Muzaffarīs</i> of Gujarāt and Mālwa.	10, 126
23-6	127-30	Inventory of the gold coins of the Empire.	64, 42
26	31	List of the silver coins of the Empire.	49
27	31	List of the copper coins of the Empire.	52
27	31-2	Names of towns permitted to coin gold, silver and copper. N.S. XXXIV, 165.	
27-9	32-35	Regulations about worn or old coins (cf. <i>Badāonī</i> , <i>Lowe</i> , 393).	131
31	37-38	Seigniorage, cost of minting and profit of the dealers in gold and silver who brought bullion to the mint. ( <i>Thomas</i> , <i>Chronicles</i> , 424.)	131
100	87	Table of ancient Hindū weights (cf. <i>Thomas</i> , <i>Chronicles</i> , 221).	
125	114	Weights of musket-bullets given in <i>Tānks</i> .	111
141	134	<i>Sēr</i> of 28 <i>Dāms</i> was formerly current in Akbar's reign. Now, the <i>Sēr</i> is fixed at 30 <i>Dāms</i> (42 R).	63
160	166	<i>Shāst-i-Khāṣa</i> given to members of the <i>Ilāhī</i> faith after initiation.	151
174	229	Old <i>Sēr</i> of 28 <i>Dāms</i> again mentioned.	112
176	233	Value of the rupee raised by Akbar from 35 to 40 <i>Dāms</i> . <sup>1</sup>	
179-1	237-1	Abjad value of <i>Jalāla</i> , <sup>2</sup> i.e. الله, God's Holy	

<sup>1</sup> This is a very significant item of information, but unfortunately no details are given.

<sup>2</sup> "This curious word, is according to the *Bahār-i-Ajam*, an abbreviation of the phrase, *Jalla Jalāluhu* 'May His glory shine forth.' It is then used in the sense of *God*." Blochmann's note.



Text.	Trans.	
		Name, equal to the number of Mansabs, viz. 66. N.S. XXXV, 101.
212	294	<i>Dāms used as weights</i> : A falcon's allowance of meat was 7 Dāms' weight.
221	307	<i>Dhan</i> pieces, <i>Man</i> pieces, i.e. half Muhrs and quarter Muhrs.

## VOL. II.

*Trans. H. S. Jarrett, Vol. VII.*

Text.	Trans		
277	30	The Ilāhī Era.	12
279	31	The names of the Ilāhī, Jalālī and Yazdajardī months (Comparative Table).	13
	46	Treasurers not to demand any particular kind of coin, etc. (Cf. <i>Ā'in</i> , Tr. I, 13.)	
	49	<i>Ibid.</i> , <i>ibid.</i>	
293	56	Rupee value of the Turkish coins, <i>Ibrāhīmīs</i> , <i>Kabīrs</i> and <i>Ākchēs</i> .	
294	57	The Khalīf Omar's <i>Jizya</i> Rates. N.S. XXVIII, 50.	
296	61	Sikandarī Tankas of Sulṭān Sikandar Lodī. The Ilāhī gaz. <sup>1</sup>	
474	224	The Tanka of Khāndesh equal to 24 Dāms. Akbarī.	
478	231	Tanka current in Berār equal to eight Tankas of Dehli. N.S. XXVIII, 90.	
493	252	Maḥmūdīs mentioned.	
49	259	Revenues of Kāṭṭyāwār Ports given in Maḥmūdīs.	
504	265	Several krors of Tankas (of Gujārāt) offered to Bābur by Nāsir Khān (Maḥmūd II), king of Gujārāt for military aid in the struggle for the succession. <sup>2</sup>	
564	354	Currency system of Kashmīr. <sup>3</sup> (Thomas, Chronicles, 222 n.)	
586	393	Rupee value of the Dīnār of Qandahār and Tumān of Qandahār, Tumān of Khurāsān and Tumān of 'Irāq.	190
588	396	Bāburīs and Tangas.	6
588	396	Dīnārs of Qandahār.	

<sup>1</sup> The author explicitly states that the new yard measure was called *Ilāhī* "in remembrance of or for recalling God" to memory (بیاد کرد ایزدی) loc. cit., p. 296, l. 10).

<sup>2</sup> Cf. Bayley, *Local Muhammadan Dynasties, Gujārāt*. p. 319 and note.

<sup>3</sup> *Vide* Num. Chron. 1899, pp. 125-174 and J.R.A.S. 1900, pp. 187-194 for [Sir] Aurel Stein's luminous exposition of this subject.

Text.	Trans.	
594	410	The revenue of Kābul in the days of Bābur was twenty ( <i>recte</i> , eight) lacs of Shāhrukhīs, equal to 32,00,00 Akbarshāhī rupees of 40 Dāms each. (Cf. Bāb. Nām. Tr. 221.) 6
595	412	Rupee value of Umayyad Dirhams. 7,00,000 Dirhams of A.H. 77 equal to 3,00,000 Akbarī rupees.

VOL. III.

*Bibl. Ind. Text,*  
1877. *Vol. II.*

*Trans. H. S. Jarrett, Vol. III.*

Text.	Trans.	
59	16	Hindu Clepsydra containing 100 Tānks weight of water. 111
60	123	Table of Ancient Hindu weights. <i>Māsha</i> , <i>Tānk Tola</i> , etc.
60	125	Table of jewellers' weights, <i>Ratis</i> , <i>Tānks</i> . <i>Misqāls</i> . 104
60	125	Table of Goldsmiths' weights. 105
60	125	The Sēr was equal to 28 dāms in the beginning of Akbar's reign; subsequently to 30 dāms. each dām equal to five tānks. <sup>1</sup> 63, 112

Akbarnāma.

VOL. I.

*Bibl. Ind. Text,*  
1877.

*Trans. II. Beveridge, Vol. I.*

Text.	Trans.	
13	42	Humāyūn instructed in a dream to give Akbar the name of Jalālu d-dīn.
48	145	Akbar's style and titles. 294
85	221	Bābur's style and titles. 291
87	225	Bābur is given the <i>laqab</i> Zahiru-d-dīn <i>at birth</i> . 291
92	236	Bābur styles himself Pādishāh (A.H. 913). 292
99	247	Allowance of seven lacs of Tankas made to Ibrahim Lodi's mother by Bābur.
99	248	Seventy lacs of <i>Sikandari</i> Tankas given to Humāyūn, seventeen lacs to Kāmran and fifteen lacs to Muhammad Zamān Mirzā, etc. (Cf. <i>Tab. Akb.</i> Text 187.) <sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> This work was practically completed about the 40th or 42nd year of Akbar's reign, 1006 A.H. (*Vide* N.S. XXXIV, 172-5.)

<sup>2</sup> The *Tabaqāt-i-Akbarī* has 'seventy lacs.' Firishta gives 'three

Text.	Trans.		
99	248-9	One Shāhrukhi sent to every inhabitant of Kābul, etc.	3
102	253	Firūz Khān received a jāgir of one kror and odd of Tankas, Shaikh Bāyazīd of one kror, Mahmūd Khān of 90 lacs, Qāzi Jā of 20 lacs. (Cf. <i>Bāburnāma</i> . Trans. Beveridge, 527.)	
104	256	Fath Khān Sarwāni received one kror and six lacs.	
106	260	One lac of revenue furnished 100 horse, one kror of revenue 10,000 horse in Bābur's time. (Cf. <i>Bāburnāma</i> , Tr. Beveridge, 562.)	
111	267	Humāyūn's full name given as ابوالنصر نصير الدين محمد همايون.	293
118	277	Date of Bābur's death.	262
120	284	Humāyūn's full style and titles.	293
121	286	Date of Humāyūn's coronation.	262
128	296	Bahādur Shāh of Gujarāt gave Tātār Khān Lodi twenty krors of the old coinage of Gujarāt, equal to forty krors of the current Dehli coinage. (Cf. Abū Turāb, <i>Tārīkh-i-Gujarāt</i> , p. 12 ) <sup>1</sup>	
138	313	'Imād-ul-Mulk collected an army by giving every one who possessed two horses a lac of Gujarātis. (Cf. Abū Turāb, 38.) <sup>2</sup>	
164	351	Date of the Battle of Qanauj.	263
198	405	Haidar Mirzā had the Khuṭba read and coins struck at first in the name of Nāzuk Shāh of Kashmīr and not of Humāyūn.	331
199	405	The Khuṭba was read in Humāyūn's name in Kashmīr only after the conquest of Kābul (955 A.H.).	331
200	408	Khuṭba read and coins struck in Kāmran's name in Badakhshān (947 A.H.).	331
209	424-5	Tabrizi Tumāns (Persian money of account).	189

lacs and fifty thousand rupees' which shows that he took them as *Sikandari* Tankas, of which 20 went to the rupee.

<sup>1</sup> Abū Turāb has "twenty krors of the old money" [ زر قدیم ] equal to "thirty krors and fifty lacs Murādi." I cannot reconcile the two statements. There is an error somewhere.

<sup>2</sup> i.e. Gujarāt Tankas, of which 100 went to the Akbari rupee. (*Mirāt-i-Sikandari*, Tr. Fazlullah, 256; *Mirāt-i-Aḥmadi*, Tr. Bird, 109). Cf. *Akbarnāma*, Tr. I. 260, where it is said that one lac of Tankas furnished 100 horse. One thousand Tankas would then be required for one horse, which would be equivalent to 500 rupees, if they were *Sikandari* Tankas. One lac Gujarāt Tankas would be worth 1,000 rupees but 'Imād-ul-Mulk might have offered 'double pay' on account of the emergency.

Text.	Trans.		
211	428	Three Tabrizī Tumāns = 600 Shāhīs.	189
332	609	Two Kunyats given at birth to Mirzā Muḥammad Ḥakīm, viz. Abūl Muḥakkhir and Abūl Fazāil, by Humāyūn.	
342	623-4	Khutba read and coins struck in Lāhor in Humāyūn's name (962 A.H.).	263
343	..	Humāyūn entered Lāhor some days afterwards 2 Rab'ū-s-Sāni, 962 A.H.	263
351	634	Date of Humāyūn's entry into <i>Dehli</i> and re-establishment on the throne.	263
363	654	Date of Humāyūn's accident.	264
364	658	Khutba read in Akbar's name.	265

VOL. II.

*Bibl. Ind. Text.*  
1877.

Text.	Trans.		
5	5	Date of Akbar's coronation.	265
9-10	15-7	Text of Farmān issued on the establishment of the Ilāhi Era; names of the Ilāhi months and days.	13
18	32-3	Initial day of the Ilāhi Era.	13
25	43	Mun'im Khān consents to recite the Khutba once in Mirzā Sulaimān's name at Kābul 963 A.H.	331
106	161	Akbar's style and titles in Farmān addressed to Bairām Khān (967 A.H.).	295
170	262	Fourteen lacs of Dāms equal to seven hundred Persian Tumāns given to Sayyad Beg, Shāh Tahmāsp's ambassador for expenses. <sup>1</sup>	190
171	264	Akbar's style and titles in letter addressed to him by Shāh Tahmāsp of Persia.	294
188	292-3	Thirty lacs of <i>Tankas</i> (not <i>rupees</i> as in Translation) in specie and goods belonging to Mun'im Khān carried off after his defeat near Kābul.	
215	332	One hundred jars (دیگ) full of 'Alāu-d-dīn's Ashraffs (اشرفی عالی) obtained by Āsaf Khān from Garhā-Katanka.	235
219	338	Sulaimān Karārānī agrees to recite Khutba in Akbar's name (IXth Year).	331
270	403	Dāms—Pay of soldiers of the first class, 48,000	

<sup>1</sup> The *Tabaqāt-i Akbarī* (Text, 257) and *Badāʾunī* (Lowe, II, 49) give 'seven lacs of *tankas*,' which implies that the word is used by them for the double dām or *Sikandari* Tanka.

Text. Trans.

- dāms a year, of the second 32,000 and of the third 24,000.
- 285 420 Khān Zamān and Bahādur Khān rebelled and read the Khutba in Mirzā Muhammad Hakīm's name.
- 324 477-9 Sulaimān Kararānī again agrees to recite the Khutba and strike coins in Akbar's name, but the peace was an insincere one (گری اشتی). 331

## VOL. III.

Bibl. Ind. Text.  
1886.

Text. Trans.

- 20 28 Dāūd Kararānī assumes independence and has the Khutba read in his own name in Bengal.
- 55-8 79-82 War cries of "Allāhu Akbar" and "Yā Mu'yyan" in the battle of Ahmadābād; Saif Khān Koka cried *Ajmīrī*, *Ajmīrī*.<sup>1</sup> (Cf. *Tab. Akb.* Text, 311.) 169
- 117 167 Krorīs appointed to look after an extent of territory which yielded a kror of *Tankas*.<sup>2</sup> (Cf. *Āin*, Tr 13; *Tab. Akb.* 323; *Bad.* Lowe, II, 189.)
- 227 320 Reorganization of Imperial mints (XXII R).
- 227 321 Square rupees ordered to be struck. *Ibid.*
- 246 854 Anūptalāo reservoir filled with coins to the value of 34 krors of Dāms. (Cf. *Tab. Akb.* 341; *Badāonī*, Lowe, II, 273; *Tūzūk*, Tr. I, 68-9.) 196
- 272 397-8 Akbar repudiates the charge of pretending to Divinity. 82
- 304 440 Khutba recited by the rebels in Bengal in the name of Mirzā Muhammad Hakīm. 331
- 354 520 Fath Dost initiated into the Dīn-i-Ilāhī and the *Shast* given to him. 152
- 355 520-1 Atak Banāras founded (XXVI R).
- 383 564-5 Regulations about old and worn coins (E.D. VI, 64). 131
- 431 644-5 Ilāhī Era instituted and became current from the 29th regnal year. 46
- 451 678 Niṣār at Jahāngīr's marriage to Bhagwāndās's daughter. 179

<sup>1</sup> This clearly shows that it was the help of the 'Khawāja of Ajmer' that was specially invoked.

<sup>2</sup> Here the word would seem to be used for the *Single* and not the *Double Dām* or *Sikandarī Tanka*.

Text.	Trans.	
502	762	Y'aqūb of Kashmīr takes the title of Shāh Ism'ail (XXXI R). <sup>1</sup> 331
615	940	Coins struck in Akbar's name at Jalesar (Jellasure) in Orissā (XXXVII R). 331
638	..	Mahmūdīs mentioned.
651	..	New regulations about old and worn coins (XXXIX R).
668	..	Gold and silver coins struck in Akbar's name in Qandahār (XL R., 1003 A.H.).
745	..	Carpet worth 300 Tumāns of Persia.
792	..	Khutba read and coins struck in Akbar's name in Badakhshān (XLVI R., 1009 A.H.). <sup>2</sup>

### Takmīla-i-Akbarnāma.

*Bibl. Ind. Text,*  
1886.

*Shaikh 'Ināyat-ulla, also called*  
*Muhammad Sālīh.*

Text.	Trans.	
832	..	Prince Salīm offers as <i>Nazar</i> a ruby worth a lac of rupees, 209 Muhrs of 100 tolas each, 200 Muhrs of 50 tolas each, 4 Muhrs of 20 tolas each and 3 of 20 tolas each. (Cf. Noer, Emperor Akbar, Eng. Tr. II, 415; Smith, Akbar, 318.) 77
841	..	Date of Akbar's death. (E.D. VI, 115 gives 9th Āzar which is demonstrably wrong.) 266

### Mirāt-i Sikandarī.

*Bombay Lithograph,*  
1831 A.C.

*Trans. E. C. Bayley.*  
,, *Fazlullah Lutfullah.*

Text.	Trans. Bayley.	Trans. Fazlullah.	
51	132	25	Five hundred gold Tankas [دينار زر] in Text] of full weight.
62	146	32	Tankas of silver and of gold differentiated.
66	151	35	Five Phadiyas equivalent to twelve Murādī Tankas. N.S. XXVIII p. 88.

<sup>1</sup> His coins are extant. Wright, I.M.C. II, p. 193.

<sup>2</sup> The compilation of this voluminous work was begun in the 34th year of Akbar's reign, 1569 A.C. The author was assassinated in the 47th, on 12th August, 1602 (Elliot and Dowson, VI, 3, and Beveridge, Journal. Royal Asiatic Society, 1903, p. 117).

Text.	Trans. Bayley.	Trans. Fazlullah.	
76	162 n.	42	The Gujarāt seer was equal in weight to 15 Bahlūls <sup>1</sup> in the time of Mahmūd I (1459-1511 A.C.).
114	208	66	One lac of Tankas, each Tanka being equal to eight Akbarī Tankas. N.S. XXVIII, 90.
151	246	94	Six lacs of Gujarāt Tankas, each worth 8 Murādī Tankas; at the present time (c. 1611 A.C.); this Tanka is still current in Khāndesh and the Dekkan.
242	346	163	Barīd ruler of Berār agrees to use the name of Bahādur Shāh in the Khutba and on coins.
302	410	211	Mubārak Shāh, ruler of Khāndesh agrees that the Khutba should run and the coins of the country be struck in the name of Sultān Mahmūd III.
307	414		Mallū Khān, ruler of Mālwa, was permitted in the reign of Mahmūd III to use his own name in the Khutba and on coins. (Vide N.S. XI, 316.)
357	..	256	Twenty-two ('twenty-two Millions' in the Trans. is an error) <i>krors</i> of Gujarātī Tankchas equal to twenty two lacs of Akbarī Tankas, i.e. rupees.
365	..	262	Author's father gets a present of 42,000 Muzaffaris (Reign of Ahmad II). <sup>2</sup>
420	..	302	Mahmūdī Changīzīs.
446	..	321	Muzaffar III, the deposed Sultān of Gujarāt sends two lacs of Mahmūdīs to Amīn Khān, ruler of Sorath. <sup>3</sup>

127

<sup>1</sup> The Bahlūlī was probably the Copper Coin of Bahlūl Lodī weighing about 144 grs. It seems to have been also called *Paisa* (*Āin*, Tr. I, 31). The author probably means the Gujarāt Tankcha of copper, which very closely resembled it in size weight and general appearance.

<sup>2</sup> For the *Muzaffari* see *Āin*, Tr. I, 23; Firishta says it was equivalent to about half a rupee. (Text. II. 287, Briggs' Tr. IV. 319.)

<sup>3</sup> This Provincial history was written about 1611 A.C. The Emperor Jahāngir who paid a visit to the author's garden at Ahmadābād in 1027 A.H. (1617 A.C.) mentions the work. *Tūzūk*, Tr. I, 427.

# Tārīkh-i Firishta.

Lucknow Lithograph,  
Vol. I.

Trans. Briggs—Rise of the Ma-  
homedan Power, Vol. II.

Text.	Trans.		
191	3	Bābur assumed the <i>laqab</i> Zahiru-d-dīn on com- ing to the throne.	291
205	48	Bābur presented to Humāyūn 3,50,000 rupees and to Muḥammad Sultān Mirzā 20,000 rupees (Cf. <i>Akb. Nām. Tr. I. 248</i> ; <i>Tab. Akb.</i> Text 187).	
205	49	He sent to every one of his subjects in Kābul a Shāhrukhī (one Miṣqāl of silver). <sup>1</sup>	7
205	46	Diamond weighing eight Miṣqāls presented to Humāyūn by Rāja Bikramājīt of Gwāliar's relatives. <sup>2</sup>	
211	64	Date of Bābur's death.	262
218	90	Date of the Battle of Qanauj.	263
243	176	Date of the Humāyūn's restoration.	263
243	178	Date of the Humāyūn's death.	264
244	182	Date of Akbar's accession.	266
252	211	Sayyad Beg, the Persian ambassador, was given presents to the amount of two lacs of <i>rupees</i> or five thousand Tumāns of 'Irāq. (But see <i>Akb. Nām. Tr. II. 262</i> ; <i>Tab. Akb.</i> in E. D. V, 276 ; <i>Badāonī, Lowe, II. 49</i> ). The equivalent in Tumāns is not given by Briggs.	190
254	218	Āsaf Khān finds in the Treasury of Gadha one hundred jars of ' Alāu-d-dīn Khiljī's Ashrafiis.	
271	280	Date of Akbar's death.	266
272	281	Inventory of Akbar's treasure.	68
II. 287 IV	319	Mirān Muhammad Fārūqī—ruler of Khāndesh compelled to sue for peace and pay to Mur- tazā Nizām Shāh six lacs of <i>Muzaffaris</i> , a sum nearly equal to three lacs of <i>Tankas of</i> <i>silver</i> [ قریب سے لک تنکہ نقرہ می شود ] in Text ; Briggs has <i>siccās</i> ].	

<sup>1</sup> The words in brackets are not in Briggs's Translation.

<sup>2</sup> Briggs has " eight miskals or 224 *rutties*." There is nothing corre-  
sponding to the last three words in the Text and his statement that 224  
" *Rutties* " are equivalent to 672 carats is founded on a misapprehen-  
sion. The *Rati* was only  $\frac{1}{3}$ ths of a carat (Tavernier, Ed. Ball. II. 89) and  
224 *Rattis* would make only 196 carats.



## Tūzuk-i-Jahāngirī.

VOL. I.

Sayyad Ahmad Khān's  
Edition, Āligarh, 1864.

Trans. Rogers and H. Beveridge.

Text.	Trans.		
1	1	Date of Jahāngir's enthronement (E.D. VI. 284).	268
1-2	2-3	Reasons for choosing the name Jahāngir and the <i>laqab</i> Nūru-d-din.	297
2	3	Aggregate cost of building Āgra Fort given in Rupees, Tumāns and Khānīs.	192
5	10-12	New names given to coins of different weights by Jahāngir (E.D. VI, 287).	69
19	42	Akbar's war-cries of 'Allāhu Akbar' and 'Yā Mu-iyyan' in the battle near Ahmadābād.	169
28	60-61	The 'Shast and Shabih' given to murids (disciples) of the Emperor.	149
34	71-72	Shaikh Husain given twenty lacs of Dāms equal to thirty or forty thousand rupees. <sup>1</sup>	
46	96	Cost of building Rohtās Fort given in Dāms, Rupees, Tumāns and Khānīs. (E.D. VI, 307.)	193
51	105	Nisār of rupees, <i>darbs</i> and <i>charns</i> on entering (Kābul).	180
55	116	Peach weighing twenty-five tolas, equal to 68 miṣqāls.	227
56	119	Peach weighing sixty-three Akbarī rupees, equal to 60 tolas.	227
57	121	Nisār of <i>Darbs</i> and <i>Charns</i> on leaving Kābul.	93
61	128	Amount distributed to the poor for the repose of Akbar's soul given in Rupees. Tumāns and Khānīs.	194
63	132-3	Weights of some rubies given in Tānks and Miṣqāls.	108
63	133	Five lacs of Dāms equal to 7,000 or 8,000 rupees bestowed on the envoy of a Sharif of Makka. <sup>2</sup>	
70	148	Ruby of seven Tānks presented by Āsaf Khān (E.D. VI. 318).	109
73	152	Cost of building Akbar's tomb at Sikandra,	

<sup>1</sup> The Imperial author is evidently at fault. Twenty lacs of dāms would at 40 dāms to the rupee be equal to fifty thousand rupees.

<sup>2</sup> The calculation is again wrong if the numbers are correctly given. Five lacs of dāms would be equal to 12,500 rupees.

Text.	Trans.		
		given in Rupees, Tumāns and Khānīs. (E.D. VI. 320.)	194
93	193	Thirty thousand rupees equal to 1000 Persian Tumāns presented to the ambassador of the Shāh of Persia.	194
96	197	Issue of heavy ( <i>Sawāī</i> ) rupees ordered to be discontinued (VI. R)	135
116	237	( <i>Kaukab i-tālī'a</i> ) Muhr of one thousand Tolas presented to the Persian ambassador.	70
116	237	Khawāja Yādgar makes an offering (Nazar) of 100 <i>Jahāngīrī Muhrs</i> .	
121	249	Nisār of 5000 rupees in small coin (زر ریزگی) among the people at Akbar's tomb.	180
124	253	Discovery of the coincidence between the Abjad value of جهانگیر and الله اكبر.	168
131	267	Jahāngīr has his ears bored to signify that he was the ear-bored slave of the Khawāja Mu'iyyanu-d-dīn of Ajmer.	169
139	284	Twenty thousand Darbs equal to ten thousand rupees presented to the Persian ambassador.	
140	285	Ruby of eight Tānks presented by Rāna of Ūdaypūr to Prince Khurram.	109
141	287	One lac Darbs presented to Kunvar Karan of Ūdaypūr.	95
142	290	Mullā Gadāī of Kashmir dies leaving a Qurān worth seven hundred Tānkas to pay for the expenses of his burial. <sup>1</sup>	
145	296	Ten thousand Darbs presented to the relations of Mirzā Sharfu-d-dīn Husain.	97
146	298	One Nūr Jahānī Muhr of the value of 6400 rupees presented to the Persian ambassador.	70
147	300	One Nūr Jahānī Muhr of 500 Tulcha (Tola) presented to the envoy of 'Ādil Khān of Bijāpūr.	70
149	304	Present of one thousand <i>Jahāngīrī Muhrs</i> sent to Khawāja Hāsham of Dahbīd.	
150	306	Thirty thousand Darbs bestowed on Mir Mir-ān.	98
156	319	Nūr Mahāl Begam ordered to be styled Nūr-Jahān Begam (XI R).	
157	321	Twenty thousand Darbs presented to Allahdād Afghān.	98
159	325	Ditto ditto ditto.	98

<sup>1</sup> This must be the Tanka or double dām, equal to the 1/20th of the Akbari rupee. Vide Num. Supp. XXVIII. 92 and the authorities quoted there.

Text.	Trans.		
177	359	Nisār of 3500 rupees in small coins (زر ريزي) at Ujjain.	180
179	363	Nisār of 1500 rupees on entering Mandū.	180
180	364	Cost of repairing old buildings in Mandū given in rupees and Tumāns.	194
185	374	Sixty thousand Darbs or thirty thousand rupees presented to the ambassador of the ruler of Irān.	94
186	375	Nisār of 1000 Ashrafts over Nūr Jahān's head for killing four tigers with only six shots.	180
188	379	A Diamond of 14½ Tānks presented by Ibrāhīm Khān Fath Jang.	109
188	379	Fourteen thousand Darbs given to Yādgār Qurchi.	96
195	394	Ruby of eleven Miqqāls presented by Mahābat Khān.	109
195	395	Nisār of precious stones and gold coins over Shāh Jahān's head on his return from his victorious campaign in the Dekkan.	180
195	395	Nisār of gold coins on the head of a choice elephant.	180
198	399	Ruby of 19½ (19 in Text) Tānks or 17 Miqqāls and 5½ Surkh.	109
198	399-400	Weights of rubies and pearls presented given in Tānks and Miqqāls.	110
198	401	Aggregate value of Shāh Jahān's <i>peshkash</i> in Rupees, Tumāns and Tūrān Khāns.	194
201	406	Two <i>Kaukab-i-Tāli'a</i> Muhrs, each weighing 500 tolas presented to the Wakils (envoys) of 'Adil Khān of Bijāpūr.	70
202	408	Muhr of 100 Tolas and 20,000 Darbs presented to Udārām Dakhani.	7,198
202	409	Ruby weighing 9 Tānks, 5 Surkhs presented to Shāh Jahān.	111
204	412	Conjurer swallows an iron chain weighing one sēr and 2 Dāms.	
205	415	Nisār of 15,000 rupees (Nariād).	180
205	415	Revenue of Petlād seven lacs of rupees, equal to 23,000 Tumāns of 'Irāq.	194
205	415	Nisār of 1000 rupees (Petlād).	180
206	417	Nisār of 5000 rupees (Cambay).	180
207	417-8	Tankas (i.e.) <i>double</i> Muhrs and <i>double</i> Rupees of gold and silver struck at Cambay (E.D. VI, 354).	173
211	426	Nisār of 1500 rupees (Ahmadābād).	180
212	428	Nisār of 1500 rupees (Sarkhaiz, Ahmadābād).	180

Text.	Trans.		
214	432	Nisār of 1000 rupees (Aḥmadābād).	180
214	433	One lac Darbs presented to the Wakils of 'Ādil Khān.	95
218	439	Thirty thousand Darbs presented to the Wakils of Qutbu-l-Mulk.	95

## Tūzuk-i-Jahāngīrī.

### VOL. II.

Text.	Trans.		
224	4	Twenty thousand Darbs given to Mīr Jumla at his first presentation.	97
226	6	Zodiacal Coins (E.D. VI, 357.)	171
229	9	Nisār of 20,000 Charms (Aḥmadābād).	100
230	11	Twenty thousand Darbs presented to Ḥakīm Masīhu-z-zamān. (E.D. VI, 357.)	95
239	26	One thousand Darbs given to the sons of Shaikh Muḥd Ḡhaus.	96
241	31	Nisār of pearls and golden roses on the feast of solar weighment.	181
244	36	Six thousand Darbs presented to the envoys of 'Ādil Khān.	95
258	63	Mirzā Hindāl had the Khutba recited in his own name at Āgra.	331
260	68-69	Kapūr Talāo treasure given in Dāms, Rupees and Tumāns.	195
260	69	One thousand Darbs presented to Ḥāfiz Nād 'Alī the reciter.	96
264	75	Twenty thousand Darbs bestowed on Jagat Singh of Ma'ū and Dahmīrī.	97
265	78	Weights of rubies and pearls given in Tānks and Surkhs.	111
266	81	Ruby of 12½ Tānks presented by Āsaf Khān.	111
267	83	Three thousand Darbs given to Hunarmānd the European jeweller.	96
271	90	Twenty thousand Darbs presented to Mīr Sharif, Wakīl of Qutbu-l-Mulk (of Golkonda).	95
274	94	One thousand Darbs presented to Sayyad Ḥasan, the Persian ambassador.	95
275	97	Ten thousand Darbs given to Bahātm Khān.	97
281	108	The old order for raising the weight of the Sēr from 30 to 36 Dāms confirmed. <sup>1</sup>	145

<sup>1</sup> Jahāngīr had at his accession, ordered the weight of the Sēr and the length of the gas to be increased by 20 p.c. The Jahāngīrī Sēr and gas or oved are frequently referred to in the correspondence edited by Mr. Foster. (English Factories in India, 1618-1621, pp. 192, 236, 199.)

Text.	Trans		
283	112	Weights of certain birds given in the Jahāngiri Śēr of 36 dāms.	
296-7	138-9	Fifteen <i>Sanhasī</i> of Kishtwār equal to ten rupees or one Pādshāhi Muhr.	249
307	159	Shāh-ālū weighing one Tānk and five Surkhs.	112
310	165	Ten thousand Darbs presented to the envoy of the ruler of Ūrganj (Khiva).	95
311	170	Peach weighing 26 Tolas or 65 Miṣqāls.	
318	183	Cost of Buildings in Lāhor Fort, seven lacs of rupees equal to 23,000 Tumāns of Persia. (E.D. VI, 374.)	195
320	187	Nisār of ten thousand Charms (Lāhor).	100
324	193	A Nūrsāhi Muhr presented to Muhammad Shaf'i.	71
324	194	Nisār of four thousand Charms (Dehli).	100
325	195	Ruby of 12 Tānks sent by Shāh 'Abbās as a present.	111
325	196	Two thousand Charms, distributed among the poor at Humāyūn's Tomb in Dehli.	100
326	198	A Nūr Jahāni Muhr of one thousand Tolas presented to Zambīl Beg, ambassador of Persia.	71
326	198	Darbs, Charms and Dāms.	96
328	201	Muhr of 200 Tolas presented to Zambīl Beg.	71
335	215	Nisār of gold and silver on the feast of Emperor's solar weighment.	180
343	230	Eighty thousand Darbs given to Zambīl Beg.	97
344	232	One thousand ( <i>Ten</i> thousand in Text) Darbs given to Hakīm Mūminā.	98
346	236	Eight thousand Darbs given to Mīr Zahīru-d-dīn.	97
347	237	One thousand Darbs given to Hakīm Mūminā.	98
365	267	'Azīzullah (nicknamed La'natullah) takes 5000 and 4 lacs of Mahmūdīs from Broach and Sūrat respectively.	127
375	284	Tiger weighing 8½ <i>Jahāngiri</i> Maunds shot by the Emperor.	

# Iqbalnama-i-Jahāngīrī.

*Bib. Ind. Text,*  
1865.

*Mu'atamad Khān Bakhshī*  
completed about 1040 A.H.

Text.	Trans. (E. and D. Vol. VI).		
2	..	Date of Jahāngīr's coronation.	268
2	..	Jahāngīr's style and titles.	297
8	..	Official date of Jahāngīr's accession or initial day of Year I <i>Julūs</i> .	268
35	..	Rupees, Tumāns and Khānis (same as <i>Tūzuk-i-Jahāngīrī</i> , Trans. I, 152).	
49	..	Rupees, Tumāns, Khānis (T.J. Tr. I, 193).	
56	405	Nūr Jahān's coin-couplet.	318
69	..	Muhr of 1000 Tolas equal to 2500 Misqāls presented to the Persian ambassador. (T.J. Tr. I, 237). Name of Muhr not given.	
81	..	Mullā Gadāī's Qurān worth seven hundred Tankas. (T.J. Tr. I, 290.)	
104	..	Nisār of precious stones and gold coins over Shāh Jahān's head. (T.J. Tr. I, 395.)	
110	..	Kachhi horses often worth one thousand or twelve hundred <i>hūns</i> , that is, four thousand or five thousand rupees (Hūn=about four rupees).	
145	..	Sanhasī of Kishtwār. (T.J. Tr. II, 138-9.)	
171	..	Rupees and Tumāns equation. (T. J. Tr. II, 183.)	
235	..	Three lacs of Hūns equal to twelve lacs of Rupees <i>nearly</i> (قريب).	
243	417	Forty Misqāls equal to one-fourth of a Jahāngīrī Sēr. (Cf. T.J. Tr. II, 108.)	
247	..	415 Tolas equal to 1037½ Misqāls (Misqāl equal to 2½ Tolas).	
293	435	Date of Jahāngīr's death.	269
295	436	Khutba read in the name of Dāwar Bakhsh in the vicinity of Bhimbar.	269
303	438	Khutba read in Shāh Jahān's name at Lāhor by the orders of Āsaf Khān. (Date.)	270
303	438	Dāwar Bakhsh and other princes put to death. (Date.)	270

## Bādishāhnāma—I.

## PART I.

Bibl. Ind. Text,  
1872.Portions translated in Elliot and  
Dowson's History of India, Vol.  
VII.

Text.	Trans.		
	E. D. VII.		
62	..	Date of Bābur's death.	262
63	..	Date of Humāyūn's accession and his style and titles.	262
64	..	Date of the battle of Qanauj.	263
65	..	Date of Humāyūn's second entry into Dehli.	263
65	..	Date of Humāyūn's death.	264
66	..	Date of Akbar's coronation.	266
66	..	Date of Akbar's death.	266
69	..	Date of Jahāngīr's coronation.	268
69	5	Date of Jahāngīr's death.	269
79	..	Khutba first read in Shāh Jahān's name at Lāhor (Date).	270
79	..	Dāwar Bakhsh and the other princes put to death (Date).	270
82	..	Shāh Jahān's style and titles.	298
87	6	Date of Shāh Jahān's coronation.	270
91	..	Shāh Jahān's style and titles.	298
96	..	Shāh Jahān assumes the <i>laqab</i> Shihābu-d-dīn at the suggestion of Asaf Khān.	299
96	..	Reason for assuming the additional <i>laqab</i> <i>Sahib-qrān-i-Sānī</i> . N.S. XXXV, 99.	300
114	..	Date of Shāh Jahān's coronation.	270
128	..	Abolition of the practice of reckoning the Julūs years in solar years and institution of the lunar computation.	201
129	..	Official date of Shāh Jahān's accession. The Imperial accession ordered to be reckoned from 1st Jumādā II, 1037, not 8th Jumādā II, 1037 A.H.	271
156	..	Āgra first styled Akbarābād by Shāh Jahān, not by Akbar.	
173	..	Ruby of eight <i>Tānks</i> presented by Rāna of Ūdaypūr to the prince Khurram ( <i>Tūzuh</i> , Trans. I, 285).	
179	..	Nazar and Nisār of Amīrs at the coronation of Shāh Jahān.	
243	..	Nisār for the festival of the <i>wazn</i> sent by Mumtāz Mahal. <sup>1</sup>	

<sup>1</sup> The gold, silver and other articles against which the Emperor was weighed "were given away to the courtiers, or to pious men, and beg-

Text. Trans.  
E. D. VII.

296	..	Nisār on entering Burhānpūr.	
302	..	Nisār during 'Id procession at Burhānpūr.	
364	25	Amount of land revenue remitted (on account of famine) given in Rupees, Tumāns and Khānis.	
429	..	Ashrafi and Rupees coined at Daulatābād in Shāh Jahān's name brought to Court (1 Zi-l-hajja, 1041, V.R.Y.).	331
433	..	Āg Mahal or Rājmahal called Akbarnagar by Akbar.	
441	..	Gigantic Ashrafi and Rupees presented to Mhd. 'Alī Beg, the Persian ambassador, at his audience of leave.	72
448	..	Tumāns and Rupees (Equation).	195
460	..	Tumāns, Rupees and Khānis (Equation).	195
485	..	" and Khānis, 2 passages; (Equation).	195
492	..	Prince Aurangzeb given the title of Bahādur.	221

VOL. I, PART II.

Text. Trans.  
E. D. VII.

21	..	The city generally known as Kashmīr is called Srīnagar in the records. (See N.S. XXVIII, p. 73.)	
70	..	Ten thousand Rupiya-i-Nisār given to 'Abdu-l-Qādir son of Ahdād.	
79	..	Price of one lac tolas of gold or 2,50,000 Mis-qāls. 14 lacs of rupees.	249
79	..	Cost of Peacock throne in Rupees, Tumāns, Khānis (Equation).	
89-90	..	Gigantic Ashrafi and Rupee presented to envoy from Tūrān.	72
101	..	Muhr of thirty tolas presented to Nazar Beg, Qūshbegi of the ruler of Balkh.	72
101	..	Gigantic Muhr and Rupee presented to the Elchi of Irān.	72
104	..	Nine trays of gold and silver Nisārs presented to Nābhar Beg, envoy of Nazar Muhammad Khān.	
134-5	..	Gigantic Muhr presented to Qāzi 'Umar Qūshbegi.	72
145	53	Khutba recited and coins struck in Shāh Jahān's name in Golkonda (IX R.Y.—1045	



Text. Trans.  
E. D. VII.

		A.H.) Nisār on the occasion. N.S. XXVII, 136-8.	331
178	..	Do. do. (See also p. 211.) <i>Ibid.</i>	
178	..	King of Golkonda promises to pay annual tri- bute of two lacs of Hūns or eight lacs of Rupees.	
181	..	Rupees, Tumāns, Khānis (Equation).	196
187	..	Ruby of about eighteen tānks presented by Prince Shāh Jahān to Jahāngīr (cf. <i>Tūzuk</i> , Tr. I. 399-400).	
189	..	Total of Prince Shāh Jahān's peshkash Rupees, Tumāns and Khānis (= <i>Tūzuk</i> , Tr. I. 401).	196
196	..	Rupees, Tumāns, Khānis (Equation).	
230	..	25,000 Hūns = 1,00,000 Rupees.	

## VOL. II.

Text. Trans.  
E. D. VII.

34	..	Khutba recited and coins struck in Shāh Jahān's name in Qandahār (Afghānistān) 23 Shawwāl, 1047, XIR.	332
39	..	Coins struck in the Emperor's name at Qanda- hār forwarded for presentation at Court.	332.
63	..	Total revenue of Persia in Rupees and Tumāns (Equation).	196
64	..	Rupees, Tumāns (Equation).	
94	..	Coins struck at Qandahār presented at Court, 26 Zī-l-q'ada 1047.	332
101	..	Gigantic Muhr and Rupee presented to Yādgār Beg Elchī.	72
108	..	The Tanka of Baglāna was equal to nine cur- rent Tankas.	122
126	..	Nine thousand Tumāns presented by Shāh of Persia to Shāh Jahān's envoy.	
134-5	..	Muhr of thirty tolas given to the chief hunts- man of Nazar Muḥammad Khān of Balkh.	72
162	..	Muhr of one hundred tolas given to Murshid Qulī, 'Alī Mardān Khānī.	
177	..	One lac of Dāms in cash (دām) given to Har- nāth Mahāpātar.	
186	..	Ten thousand <i>Qurūsh</i> <sup>2</sup> = 20,000 Rupees given	

<sup>1</sup> The *Bādīshahnāma* is a history of the first twenty years of the reign of Shāh Jahān. The author died in 1065 A.H., 1654 A.C. (Elliot and Dowson, VIII, 3).

<sup>2</sup> This is the Turkish *Ghurūsh*, q.v. Mr. Stanley Lane Poole's article on the 'Weights and Denominations of Turkish Coins' in *Num. Chron.* 1882.

Text.	Trans.	
	E. D. VII.	by the Sultān of Turkey to Zarif, Shāh Jahān's envoy.
218	..	Gigantic Muhr and Rupee given to the Turkish envoy. 72
232	..	Jām of Nawānagar compelled by A'zam Khān to close the mint where Maḥmūdīs were coined and to promise to pay a peshkash of three lacs of <i>Maḥmūdīs</i> . 127
246	..	Horse bought at Baṣra for 12,000 rupees equal to 36,000 <i>Lāris</i> .
259	69	Three lacs of Ashrafiis equal to 42 lacs of rupees (1051 A.H.-XVR). 250
352	..	Gigantic Muhr and Rupee presented to envoy of 'Ādil Khān of Bijāpūr.
365	..	3,60,000 rupees equal to 12,000 Tumāns equal to 14,40,000 Khānīs.
391	..	One Tānk equal to 24 pearl rats (رتي جومري) and one Miṣqāl equal to 27 Ratīs. 105
396	..	Niṣār of precious stones, Muhrs, <i>Dhans</i> , <i>Charms</i> , Rupees, <i>Darbs</i> , Niṣārīs, golden roses and silver fruits during festival in celebration of Jahān Ārā Begam's recovery. 99
399	..	Hakim Muḥammad Dāūd given a five hundred tola Muhr and rupee for curing the princess. 72
492	..	Gigantic Muhrs and Rupees given to Nazar Shu-wāyīb, Elchī of Nazar Muḥammad Khān. 73
542	..	The total revenue of Balkh and Badakhshān. one hundred lacs of <i>Shāhīs</i> (formerly called Khānīs and also Tanga) and equal to about 25 lacs of (Shāhjahānī) Rupees.
562-63	..	The debased Khānīs of Balkh melted down and purified and coined into <i>Shāhīs</i> of good silver, bearing the name of Shāh Jahān, in the Balkh mint.
578	..	Ashrafi valued at about fourteen Rupees (1056 XX R.). 250
609	..	Fifty thousand Rupees equal to two lacs of Shāhīs.
662	..	Tumāns and Rupees (Equation) : 12,000 Tumāns equal to 4,00,000 Rupees or 250 Ashrafiis.
678	..	Five hundred <i>Dhans</i> from the <i>Zar-i-Niṣār</i> given to Khwāja Tayyab (cf. <i>Āin</i> . Tr. I. 266 note). 44n.

## ‘Ālamgīrnāma.

Bibl. Ind. Edition, 1868.

Text.	
25	Style and titles of Aurangzeb. 301
29	Murād Bakhsh and Shujā' have the <i>Khuṭba</i> recited and coins struck in their own names in Gujārāt and Bengal. 300
112	Shāh Jahān sends a sword named 'Ālamgīr' to Aurangzeb who takes it as an omen of success, 11-ix-1068 A.H. 302
134	Murād Bakhsh had assumed the <i>laqab Murawwaju-d-dīn</i> , called himself <i>Sulṭān</i> and had the <i>Khuṭba</i> read and coins struck in his name. 300
138	Date of Murād Bakhsh's arrest and imprisonment. 273
152	Date of the first coronation of Aurangzeb. 275
155-6	The form of the <i>Khuṭba</i> , the Inscriptions on the coins and the Imperial titles ( لقب اشرف ) were left for future settlement.
344	Date of Shujā's flight from Akbarnagar.
350	Same as 155-6.
351	Date of the second coronation of Aurangzeb. 275
361	Do. do. 275
366	The Kalima forbidden to be inscribed on Ashraffs and Rupees.
367	Coin-couplet of Aurangzeb (with بدر ). 320
367	Style and titles of Aurangzeb. 302
387	Shāh Jahān had abolished the practice of reckoning the years of his reign in solar years and restored the lunar reckoning. Aurangzeb forbids the celebration of the Nauroz. 202
388-9	1st Ramzān 1068 fixed as the official date of the Emperor's accession. 276
438	Twenty-five lacs of rupees equivalent to 75,000 Tumāns of Persia. 196
483-4	Date of Shujā's flight to Ārakān. 274
557	Do. do. 274
608	Muhr and Rupee of 200 Tolas each given to the envoy of Subhān Qulī Khān 73
627	Three gigantic Muhrs and Rupees given to the Persian ambassador 73
644	Two Do. do. to the envoy of King of Bokhārā. 73
886	One Do. do. Habash. 73
922	<i>Khuṭba</i> recited and coins struck in <i>Tibet-i-Buzurg</i> (Great Tibet) (VIII R. 1076) in the name of Aurang-

Text.

	zeb. One thousand Muhrs and 2000 rupees of the Imperial type sent as specimens to Court. <sup>1</sup>	332
931	Date of Shāh Jahān's death.	273
934-5	Length of Shāh Jahān's reign.	272
1051	Gigantic Muhr and Rupee given to the envoy from Balkh. <sup>2</sup>	73

## Maāṣir-i-'Ālamgīrī.

*Bibl. Ind. Text, 1871 A.C.*

Text.

8	Date of Murād Bakḥsh's arrest ('Ālamgīrnāma, p. 138)	273
8-9	Date of Aurangzeb's first coronation—Style of the Khuṭba, Sikka and Imperial titles (لقب اشرف) left undetermined. ('Āl. N. p. 155.)	275
22	Date of second coronation. ('Āl. N. p. 351.)	275
23	Kalima forbidden to be stamped on coins. Verse-motto composed by Mir 'Abdul Baqī whose <i>nom de plume</i> was Sahbāī. ('Āl. N. p. 366.)	320
23	Aurangzeb's style and titles. ('Āl. N. p. 367.)	301
25	1 Ramzān 1068 fixed as the official date of accession. ('Āl. N. p. 388.)	276
25	Feast of Nauroz abolished. ('Āl. N. p. 387.)	
30	Date of Shujā's flight. ('Āl. N. p. 483.)	274
52	Khuṭba recited and coins struck in Aurangzeb's name made current in Great Tibet (1076 A.H. VIII R.) ('Āl. N. p. 922.)	332
53	Date of Shāh Jahān's death and length of his reign. ('Āl. N. p. 931.)	272-3
67	Aurangzeb's style and titles.	301
68	Bahādur Shāh Shāh 'Ālam's <i>Laqab</i> and <i>Kunya</i> .	304
82	Ruby weighing five Tānks and five Surkhs sent by Prince Mu'azzam as a present from the King of Bijāpūr.	
108	Gigantic Muhr and Rupee given to the envoy of the Sharif of Makka.	73

<sup>1</sup> Muḥammadan geographers speak of "Seven Tibets, three of which are subject to Kashmīr, and the other four are independent, and have a Raja \* \* or ruler of their own. \* \* \* One Tibbat—*Tibbat i Kalān* [or Great Tibbat]—is parallel with Kashmīr for fifteen stages." Raverty in J.A.S.B., 1895, p. 119.

<sup>2</sup> The '*Ālamgīrnāma* is a history of the first ten years of the reign of Aurangzeb. It was dedicated to the Emperor in the 32nd year of the reign, but on being presented, its continuation was forbidden (Elliot and Dowson VII. 174).

## Text.

- 153 Prince Muḡammad Mu'azzam given the title of *Shāh 'Ālam Bahādur* (XIXR). 304.
- 185 *Charns, Doāna* and *Chihār āna* of gold and silver, Black Tankas and cowries mentioned. 101
- 192 *Khuṣṣa* recited and coins struck at Bijāpūr in Aurangzeb's name 1091 A.H. N.S. XXVII. 134
- 207 Gigantic Muhr and Rupee given to envoy of ruler of Ūrganj. 74
- 210 Five hundred Dirham-i-Shar'ī fixed as the *mahr* of Shahr Bānū, daughter of 'Ādil Khān. N.S. XXVIII, p. 46.
- 226 35,000 Ibrāhīmīs and one lac Ashrafīs left by Mḡd. Amīn Khān.<sup>1</sup>
- 230 4000 rupees scattered as Niṣār by Aurangzeb after Prince A'zam's escape from the attack of an elephant.
- 266 Gigantic Muhr presented to Chinqulich Khān Bahādur Firūz Jang for extraordinarily good service. 74
- 282 Bijāpūr given *laqab* of دار الظفر. N.S. XXXV. 68.
- 302 Haidarābād called دار الجهاد. N.S. XXXV. 59.
- 333 (One hundred Rupees and some Charns of gold and silver given by Aurangzeb to a certain person, 101n
- 397 Gigantic Muhrs and Rupees given to the envoy of the ruler of Bokhārā. 74
- 428 *Dām-i-Nauras* struck by Ibrāhīm 'Ādil Shāh of Bijāpūr.
- 440 Nazar of princes ordered to be called *Niāz* and that of Amīrs *Niṣār*.
- 460 A Fifty-Muhr gold piece given to Mīr Abūl Wafā for reading a letter written in cipher. 74
- 483 Gigantic Muhr and Rupee presented to the envoy from Balkh. 74
- 514 Prince Muḡammad A'zam begs permission to assume the Kunyat Abūl Fayyāz. 303
- 521 Date of Aurangzeb's death (E.D. VII, 194). 276

<sup>1</sup> Abūl Faṣl says that the Ibrāhīmī was equal to 40 Kabīrs and 14 Kabīrs were equal to an Akbarī Rupee (*Āin. Tr.* I. 56). The Ibrāhīmī would be, thus equivalent to 2½ Rupees. The Kabīr is said to have been current at Moḡhā and to have been reckoned as equal to ¼th of a dollar (Ovington 463; Milburn, I. 98 quoted in Hobson Jobson, Ed. Crooke, 121). The double Ibrāhīmī is mentioned in the *Mīrāt-i-Aḡmadī* and accounted as equivalent to about 4½ Rupees. (Bayley, *Gujarāt*, p. 6; Bird, *History of Gujarāt*, 109.) Hamilton speaks of *Ebramies* and *Mograbies* as Turkish gold coins of low matt. A New Account of the East Indies, Ed. 1744, I. 43.

Text.

- 523 Length of Aurangzeb's reign (reckoned from the official date) of accession.  
 536 Date of A'zam Shāh's death (E.D. VII, 196). 277  
 538 Date of Kām Bakhsh's death (E.D. VII, 196).<sup>1</sup> 277

**Khāfi Khān.**

VOL. I.

*Bibl. Ind. Edition 18.*

Text.

- 46 Ransom of four hundred thousand Shāhrukhīs, each weighing one *Misqāl*, imposed by Bābur on Bhīra. 8  
 53 Three lacs and fifty thousand silver Tankas current at the time ( سه لک و پنجاه هزار سکه نقره رائج الوقت ) bestowed on Humāyūn and two lacs silver Tankas on Sulṭān Muḥammad Mirzā by Bābur. (Cf. *Akb. Nām*. Tr. I 248.)  
 53 One Shāhrukhī weighing one *Misqāl* of silver sent as a present to every soul in Kābul (Firishta, Briggs. II, 40.) 7  
 61 Niṣār after Bābur's victory over Sāngā.  
 61 Bābur styles himself *Qhāzī* after defeating Sāngā. 293  
 124 Date of Humāyūn's death. 264  
 127 Date of Akbar's accession. 265  
 131 *Khuṭba* read in Mirzā Sulaimān's name in Kābul (963 A.H.). 331  
 155 Meaning of *Tanka*, *Pul-i-Siyāh*, *Fulūs*, *Tanka-i-Nuqra*, etc. Todar Mal first introduced the rupee of forty Dāms.  
 161 Two lacs of rupees given to Shāh Tahmāsp's ambassador. (But cf. Badāonī, Lowe, II, 49 and *Akb. Nāma*, Tr. II, 262.)  
 165 Āgra was first called Akbarābād only after the accession of Shāh Jahān. (*Bād Nām*. I, i. 156.)  
 167 Mirzā Sulaimān has the *Khuṭba* recited and coins struck in his own name at Kābul (973 A.H.). 331  
 235 Date of Akbar's death. 267  
 243 Akbar's treasure (Gigantic Muhra, etc.), of Firishta, Tr. Briggs, II, 281. 68  
 246 Date of Jahāngīr's accession. 268  
 246 The Emperor takes the *Ilqāb* of Nūru-d-dīn Jahāngīr. 297  
 249 Official date of Jahāngīr's Julūs. 268

<sup>1</sup> The author was Secretary to Bahādur Shāh Shāh 'Ālam I. The work was undertaken at the request of the Emperor and completed in 1710 A.C. (Elliot and Dowson VII. 181).

## Text.

- 268 Verse-motto of Nūr Jahān's coins. 318
- 272 Jahāngīr orders portrait-medals of a Tola of gold to be struck for presentation to his favourite Amīr. 147
- 293 Niṣār of precious stones and Ashrafs on Prince Khurram's head after his return from the Dekkan (here called تصدق) *Tūzūk* Tr. I, 395.
- 304 تصدق of silver and gold after Shāh Shujā's accidental fall from the terrace.
- 386 Jahāngīr orders portrait-medals of five Tolas of gold to be struck. 148
- 388 Date of Jahāngīr's death. 269
- 394 Shahriār and the son of Prince Daniāl put to death by Āsaf Khān's orders. (Date.) (Dāwar Bakhsh's name is left out.) 270
- 395 Shāh Jahān's style and titles. 298
- 395 Date of Shāh Jahān's accession. 271
- 396 Niṣār of gold and silver and precious stones at Shāh Jahān's coronation.
- 397 Shāh Jahān forbids the years of his Julūs to be reckoned in solar years and reintroduces the Arabian or Hijrī era. 203
- 402 Sarhind ordered to be written *Sahrind*. N.S. XXXIV, p. 235.
- 403 Revenue of Persia in Tumāns and Rupees (= *Bād. Nām.* II, 63).
- 424 Burhānpūr ordered to be styled *Dāru-s-Surūr* (1040 A.H.) N.S. XXXV, p. 64.
- 503 Cost of the Peacock Throne in Tumāns and Rupees (= *Bād. Nām.* I. ii. 79).
- 523 Khuṭba read and coins struck at Golkonda in Shāh Jahān's name. The king sends the newly-stamped Rupees and Ashrafs to court (= *Bād. Nām.* I, ii. 145, 178). N.S. XXVII, 138. 331
- 523 Niṣār of golden and silver roses on the head of the Khatīb.
- 536 Peshkash of 2 lacs of Hūns or eight lacs of rupees promised by 'Abdulla Quṭb Shāh of Golconda. (*Bād. Nām.* I, ii. 178.)
- 556 Nine Ashrafs and nine rupees struck at Qandahār in Shāh Jahān's name, sent to court. (*Bād. Nām.* II, 39.) 332
- 562 The Rājās of Baglāna were at one time صاحب سکه i.e. struck coins of their own and their revenue was fifteen lacs of rupees. 121
- 574 The Qaisar, i.e. Sultān of Rūm [Turkey] gives 'inām of 10,000 *Qurūsh* or 20,000 rupees to Shāh Jahān's envoy Zarīf. (*Bād. Nām.* II, 186.)

Text.

- 581 Gigantic medals of gold and silver presented to Arslān Āqā, envoy of the Sultān of Rūm. (*Bād. Nām.* II, 218.)
- 583 Jām of Nawānagar compelled to close the mint where he used to strike Maḥmūdīs. (He says the peshkash was three lacs of *Rupees*.) (*Bād. Nām.* II, 232.) 127
- 606 Shāh Jahān takes a tray full of pearls and rubies and gold and silver coins worth one lac of rupees and waves it over the head (جلو) of Jahān Ārā Pādishāh Begam, on the feast held to celebrate her recovery. Niṣār of precious stones and *golden roses* on behalf of the Princess and other Begams. (*Bād. Nām.* II, 396.) 99
- 606 Muhr and rupees of five hundred Tolas given to Hākīm Dā'ūd as a reward for curing the Princess. (*Bād. Nām.* II, 399.) 72
- 632 Total Revenue of Balkh and Badakhshān, one krór Shāhis *also called Khānīs*; one rupee = 4 Shāhis. (*Bād. Nām.* II, 542.)
- 639 The circulation in Balkh of the old Khāni which had been debased and had a large proportion of copper forbidden, Shāh Jahānī Rupees and Ashrafis made current. (*Bād. Nām.* II, 563.)
- 654 Twelve thousand Tumāns or 4 lacs of rupees in cash (دائ) given by the Shāh of Persia to Nazār Muḥammad Khān. (*Bād. Nām.* II, 662.)
- 749 Mir Jumla offers as Nazār and Niṣār one thousand gold *Ibrāhīmīs* to Prince Aurangzeb. (Cf. *Muṣṣ.* 'Ālam. 226 note.)

## Khafī Khān II.

Text. Trans.  
E. D. VII.

- 2 212 Aurangzeb's style and titles. 302
- 5 214 Shāh Shujā' and Murād Bakhsh have the *Khuṭba* recited and coins struck in their own names.
- 29 .. Amīrs offer *Nazar* and *Niṣār* after the battle of Dharmātpūr.
- 31-32 225-6 Shāh Jahān sends a sword named '*Ālamgir* as a present to Aurangzeb who takes it as a good omen. 302
- 38 228 Murād Bakhsh arrested and imprisoned. (Date.) 273
- 39 229 Date of Aurangzeb's first coronation; *Khuṭba* and *Sikka* not settled. 275
- 40 .. *Nazar* and *Niṣār* at Aurangzeb's first coronation.



Text.	Trans.		
	E. D. VII.		
76	241	Date of Aurangzeb's second coronation (4th in E.D. is a mistake for 24th).	275
77	241	Aurangzeb's style and titles.	302
77	241	Stamping of Kalima on coins forbidden. Verse motto on Ashrafi (with 'mihr'); on Rupees (with 'badr').	
79	241	Celebration of Nauroz forbidden; Hijrī era to be used in the <i>Hisāb-i-Ḍaftar</i> .	30
134	..	Narāinī coins of Kūch-Bihār alluded to; (also p. 137).	
153	265	Coins struck in 'Ālamgīrnagar in Kūch Bihār; khuṭba recited in Aurangzeb's name and circulation of <i>Narāinīs</i> forbidden. (1072 A.H.). <sup>1</sup>	332
156	267	Murād Baksh put to death. (Date.)	274
177	271	Shivājī coins Hūns and copper coins at Rājgad (1074 A.H.)	332
183	275	Ten lacs of Hūns = 40 lacs of rupees (1075 A.H.).	
185	..	Khuṭba recited and coins struck in Aurangzeb's name in Tibet (1075 A.H.).	332
185	..	Niṣār of gold and silver roses on the head of Khaṭīb	
185-6	..	Two thousand of the newly struck Ashrafi and nine thousand of the rupees sent to court with other presents.	
187	275	Date of Shāh Jahān's death.	273
189	..	Aurangzeb. presents to Begam Sāhib ten thousand Ashrafi, each Ashrafi was then equal to <i>seventeen rupees</i> (1076 A.H.).	250
190	276	Shivājī offers as Nazar and Niṣār 1500 Ashrafi and six thousand rupees equal in all to 30,000 rupees (Ashrafi = 16 rupees).	251
214	..	The publication of Almanacks forbidden.	31
233	..	Aimal Khān Afghān calls himself Aimal Shāh and stamps money in his own name. A.H.	332
266	301	Prince Muḥammad Akbar said to have struck money in his own name. 1079 A.H.	332
358	336	Haidarābād ordered to be called <i>Dāru-l-Jihād</i> .	
399	344	Names of places like <i>Baglāna</i> , <i>Bangāla</i> , <i>Par-nāla</i> , etc., to be written with a terminal <i>Alef</i> instead of final 'ha.' 1103 A.H. N.S. XXXIV, 191.	

<sup>1</sup> For these *Narāinīs*, see Notes On Some Coins of the Koch Kings, by E. A. Gait in J.A.S.B. 1895, 237-241. 'Ālamgīrnagar was the new name given to the capital of Kūch Bihār. ('*Ālam. Nāma*. 694; *Maṣq. Ālam*. 40.)

Text.	Trans.	
	E.D. VII.	
401-2	345	Portuguese silver coin worth nine annas and called <i>Ashrafī</i> (Xerafin) and copper coin called <i>Buzrug</i> (Bazaruco) equal to $\frac{1}{2}$ of a <i>Fulūs</i> (cf. Hobson-Jobson, s.v. <i>Xerafine</i> and <i>Budgrook</i> ). 332
423	351	Rupees struck by the English at Bombay in the name of their own King. 332
432	357	One lac <i>Hūns</i> equal to 3,50,000 rupees (1105 A.H.). 304
443	358	Prince Mu‘azzam who had been given the title ( <i>خطاب</i> ) of <i>Shāh ‘Ālam</i> was now given the ( <i>لقب</i> ) of <i>Bahādur Shāh</i> (1106 A.H.) 304
549	386	Date of Aurangzeb's death. 276
566	387	Date of A‘zam Shāh's coronation. 277
568	389	Aurangzeb's treasure in Āgra Fort, <i>Ashrafi</i> and presentation money. [ <i>سکه غریب نواز</i> ] 74
570	390	<i>Kām Bakhsh</i> assumes the <i>لقب</i> <i>Dīn Panāh</i> in his <i>Khutba</i> and has coins struck in his own name. 303
570	..	Verse-motto of <i>Kām Bakhsh</i> 's coins. 321
571	391	Date of A‘zam Shāh's coronation and his coin-couplet. 277
574	392	Date of <i>Bahādur Shāh Shāh ‘Ālam I</i> 's coronation. 278
574	393	<i>Bahādur Shāh</i> orders the weight of the rupee to be raised by $\frac{1}{2}$ <i>Māsha</i> . N.S. XXVIII, 67.
578	393-4	<i>Bahādur Shāh</i> gets possession of the treasure in Āgra Fort (large <i>Ashrafi</i> and presentation money). [ <i>اشرفی و روپیہ غریب نواز</i> ] 75
590	398	Date of A‘zam Shāh's defeat and death. 277
599	..	Titles given by the Emperor to the Princes. 305
603	404	<i>Bahādur Shāh Shāh ‘Ālam I</i> orders that the legends on coins should be in prose, not verse.
607	..	Official date of <i>Shāh ‘Ālam Bahādur</i> 's accession fixed as 18 Zī-l-hajja 1117 A.H. 278
621	..	Date of <i>Kām Bakhsh</i> 's defeat and death. 277
644	..	<i>Khutba</i> read in Qandahār (Afghānistān) in <i>Bahādur Shāh</i> 's reign. 332
645	..	<i>Ḥaidarābād</i> ordered to be called <i>Farkhunda Bunyād</i> . N.S. XXXV, 79.
683	428	Date of <i>Bahādur Shāh</i> 's death. 279
686	430	Date of ‘ <i>Azīmu-sh-shān</i> 's death.
701	437	Date of <i>Jahāndār Shāh</i> 's defeat. 281

Text.	Trans.		
	E. D. VIII.		
710	439	Farrukhsiyar has the <i>Khuṭba</i> recited and coins struck in the name of his father 'Azimu-sh-shān on receiving the news of Bahādur Shāh's death. N.S XXXV, 82.	
711	439	Farrukhsiyar on hearing of 'Azimu-sh-shān's death has the <i>khuṭba</i> read and coins struck in his own name at Patna. <i>Ibid.</i> 83.	
721	..	Date of Farrukhsiyar's victory and Jahāndār Shāh's defeat.	281
734	445	Jahāndār Shāh put to death. (Date).	281
737	..	Five hundred Tumāns = 24,000 rupees. (1124 A.H.)	196
737	..	Gigantic Ashrafi and rupees presented to the Persian ambassador, Mir Murtaẓā Khafāf. 75	
737	446	Farrukhsiyar gives orders that his own reign should be reckoned from 1st Rab'ī I 1123, (Recte I, 1124) and that Jahāndār Shāh's reign should be considered as (عبد مخالف) an usurpation.	281
8	476	Date of Farrukhsiyar's deposition.	282
816	479	Date of Raf'iu-d-Darajāt's coronation.	282
816	479	Style and titles of Raf'iu-d-Darajāt (also p. 814)	306
825	482	Nikūsiyar declared Emperor by the garrison of Āgra Fort.	284
825	..	Nikūsiyar's coin-couplet.	325
827	..	Date of Nikūsiyar's enthronement.	284
829	482	Raf'iu-d-Daula enthroned during the lifetime of Raf'iu-d-Darajāt.	283
829	482	Death of Raf'iu-d-Darajāt three days subsequently.	283
830	482	Date of Raf'iu-d-Daula's accession.	283
831	483	He takes the لقب <i>Shāh Jahān-i-Sānī</i> .	307
836	484	Surrender of Āgra Fort and deposition of Nikūsiyar. (Date).	284
838	485	Death of Raf'iu-d-Daula after a reign of three months and some days.	283
840	485	Date of Muḥammad Shāh's coronation.	284
841	485	Muḥammad Shāh's style and titles.	307
841	846	Muḥammad Shāh issues orders that his own reign should be taken to have begun from the day of Farrukhsiyar's deposition.	285
850	..	Muḥammad Shāh's style and titles.	307
903	..	Ditto ditto.	307
914	509	Muḥammad Ibrāhīm declared Emperor.	28
914	509	Muḥammad Ibrāhīm's style and titles.	286

Text. Trans.  
E. D. VIII.

927	..	Muhammad Shāh's style and titles. See also 933.	307
933	515	Defeat of the Sayyads and deposition of Muhammad Ibrāhīm (Date). <sup>1</sup>	286

## Mirāt-i-Aḥmadī.

### PART I.

Bombay Lith.,  
1306 A.H.

Tr. Bird, *History of  
Gujarāt* (1835).

Text.	Trans.		
8	91	Style and titles of Aḥmad Shāh.	309
14	99	Style and titles of 'Ālamgr II.	309
19-24	109-118	One hundred Tankchas of Gujarāt equivalent to one Akbarī Rupee. (Cf. also Bayley, <i>Local Muhammadan Dynasties</i> , pp. 6-15.)	
..	109	Hūns and Ibrāhīmīs reckoned at about 4½ rupees each.	
22	119	Maḥmūdī Changīzī valued at ½ rupee (the figures are probably wrong). (Bayley, p. 12.)	
24	122	Maḥmūdī Changīzī valued at ½ rupee. (Bayley, 14.)	
25	127	Maḥmūdī Changīzī valued at 2/5ths of a rupee. (Bayley, 14, 16.)	
58	...	The Gujarāt seer was equal in weight to 15 Bahlūlīs in the reign of Maḥmūd I 1459-1511 A.C. (For <i>Bahlūlīs</i> , vide <i>Āin</i> , Tr. I, 31; Thomas, <i>Chronicles</i> , p. 359.)	
104-111	292-300	Style and titles of the Mughal Emperors from Bābur to Shāh Jahān III and the dates of their accession and death.	
166-171	382	Introduction of the Ilāhī era and the Imperial Farmān on the subject.	112
214	..	Shāh Jahān orders the years of his Julūs to be reckoned in Hilālī (Lunar) years. ( <i>Bād. Nām</i> . I. 1, 128.)	
224-6	..	A'zam Khān compels the Jām to pay tribute and close the mint in which he had been striking Maḥmūdīs. ( <i>Bād. Nām</i> . II. 232); (vide N.S. XXIV, 468).	128

<sup>1</sup> Khāfi Khān's *History* is a chronicle of the house of Tīmūr from the accession of Bābur to the 14th year of Muhammad Shāh. (E D. VII, 207.)

Text.	Trans.	
279-80	..	Aurangzeb reduces the weight of the Dām from 21 Māshas to 14 Māshas. N.S. XXVIII. 63
282	..	Same subject. <i>Ibid.</i> , 64.
322	..	Murādī Tankas. <i>Ibid.</i> , 91.
408	..	Bahādur Shāh Shāh 'Ālam I orders the weight of the Muhr and Rupee to be raised and made equal to one Tola—1122 A.H. <i>Ibid.</i> , 68.
422	..	Coin-couplet of Farrukhsiyar. He issues orders for striking Ashrafiis and rupees of the old-weight, viz. 11 Māshas and 11½ Māshas respectively as in the days of Aurangzeb. 323

## PART II.

119	..	The standard weight of the Ashrafi was 11 Māshas and that of the Rupee 11½ Māshas when the author wrote (about 1761 A.C.) <sup>1</sup>
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Khazāna-i-'Āmira.

Kāhnpūr Lithograph, 1900 A.C.

Text.

52	Date of Aḥmad Shāh's imprisonment and of 'Ālamgir II's accession.	287
54	'Ālamgir II put to death. (Date.)	287
55	The day on which the Nawābs of the Carnatic made the night-attack on Nizāmu-d-daula's (Nāsir Jang's) camp was the 17th of Muḥarram (1164 A.H.) according to astronomical calculation—(حساب تنجیم) but the 16th according to visibility (حساب رویت).	
78	Date of Muḥammad Shāh's death.	285
90	Date of Aḥmad Shāh's accession.	286
90	Date of Aḥmad Shāh's imprisonment.	287
90	'Ālamgir II put to death. (Date.)	287
90	Shāh Jahān III is placed on the throne. (Date.)	288
91	Prince 'Alī Gohar ascends the throne and assumes the	

<sup>1</sup> This work was begun about 1748 A.C., 1161 A.H. and completed in 1756 A.C., 1170 A.H. (Bird, *loc. cit.* 95, 99). 'Alī Muḥammad Khān, the author, was Diwān of Gujarāt.

Text.

- title of Shāh 'Ālam II. (Date) Official date of his accession. 288
- 91 Shāh Jahān III deposed. (Date.) 288
- 106 Ditto ditto (Date.) 288
- 269 The Khān-i-Khānān 'Abdu-r-Rahīm, Viceroy of Gujarāt, gave 40,000 Maḥmūdīs to the poet Shakībī in 1011 A.H.
- 371 Nādir Shāh's Coin-couplet. (Rodgers, *loc. cit.*)
- 404 Muẓaffar III of Gujarāt gave to the poet Muji Lāri one hundred thousand Sikandarīs (Tankas) for a Maḡnavī.
- 411 Khāki Shirāzi says in his *Muntakhabu-l-Tawārīkh*<sup>1</sup> that Akbar gave Khwāja Husain Marwī for a Qasīda on the birth of Prince Salīm, two lacs of Tankas, i.e. ten thousand Akbarī Rupees.

### Siyaru-l-Mutaākh Khirīn.

Sayyad Ghulām Husain Khān.  
completed in 1783 A.C.

Trans. M. Raymond.  
Calcutta Reprint, 1902.

Trans.

Vol. I. 3	Date of Aurangzeb's death.	276
3	A'zam Shāh ascends the throne. (Date.)	277
5	Date of Bahādur Shāh Shāh 'Ālam I's coronation.	278
7	Date of A'zam Shāh's defeat and death.	277
12 (note)	The dām really equal to from the 40th to 48th part of a rupee, but in the Chamber of Accounts 40 dāms always go for a rupee. (See also I. 183 n.)	
13	Date of Kām Bakhsh's defeat and death.	277
22	Date of Shāh 'Ālam I's death.	279
47	Farrukhsiyar has the Khuṭba read and coins struck in his own name on hearing of his father's death.	
53	Date of Jahāndār Shāh's defeat.	281
62	Ditto ditto death.	281
129-30	Farrukhsiyar is deposed. (Date.)	282
136	Style and titles of Raf'iu-d-Darajāt and date of his accession.	282
143	Date of Raf'iu-d-darajāt's death.	283
145	Date of Muhammad Shāh's coronation.	285

<sup>1</sup> There is a copy of this rare work in the Mullā Firūz Library, Bombay. (Rehateek. Catalogue, p. 84.) The author was Diwān of Patna and it was completed in 1010 A.H. The statement is therefore not without significance. Cf. *Tab. Akb.* Text 288; *Badā'uni* Tr. Lowe II, 124. See Elliot and Dowson, VI. 201 for an account of the writer.

Text.		
146	Style and titles of Muḥammad Shāh.	307
146	Official date of Muhammad Shah's Julus.	285
186	Style and titles of Muḥammad Ibrāhīm and date of accession.	309, 286
193	Defeat of the Sayyads and deposition of Muḥammad Ibrāhīm. (Date.)	286
201	Nigār by the Emperor's mother on his returning to the palace after the victory.	
237	Alteration of Muḥammad Shāh's <i>Kunyat</i> and substitution of <i>Abūl Faṭḥ</i> for <i>Abūl Muẓaffar</i> . (1134 A.H.)	307
Vol. II—336n.	Coin-couplet of Shāh 'Ālam II composed by Mir Mahdi Khān (Brown. L.M.C. i No. 78). Meaning of the name 'Āli Gohar.'	327
Vol. III—339	Date of Aḥmad Shāh's deposition and 'Ālamgīr II's accession.	
„ IV—196n.	Parody of Aurangzeb's coin-couplet.	322
224	Bahādur Shāh orders Haidarābād to be styled Farkhunda Bunyād.	

### Tārīkh-i-Muẓaffarī.

#### Manuscript.

Text.		
57	Date of Aurangzeb's death.	276
57	Prince Muḥammad A'ẓam ascends the throne. (Date.)	277
57	Date of Bahādur Shāh Shāh 'Ālam I's accession.	278
58	Date of A'ẓam Shāh's defeat and death.	277
63	Date of Kām Baksh's defeat and death.	277
68	Date of Bahādur Shāh's death.	
69	Date of Jahāndār Shāh's coronation.	
74	Date of Jahāndār Shāh's defeat.	
76	Actual date of Farrukhsiyar's accession.	
79	Official date of ditto ditto.	
84	Date of Raf'iu-d-darajāt's accession.	
84	Raf'iu-d-daula's accession.	
84	Do. Raf'iu-d-darajāt's death.	283
	Raf'iu-d daula's death.	
85	Style and titles of Muḥammad Shāh: date of his coronation	307
86	Official date of his accession.	285
108	Muḥammad Ibrāhīm raised to the throne. His style and titles.	309
111-6	Defeat of the Sayyads and deposition of Muhammad Ibrāhīm. (Date.)	286

Text.		
117	Nisār on Muḥammad Shāh's head on his return to the capital	
135	Envoy of the Sharif of Mecca given an Ashrafi of 1,000 tolas called <i>Kaukab-i-Tāl'i</i> . (XI R.Y.)	75
186	Date of Muḥammad Shāh's death.	285
186-7	Duration of his reign according to the <i>actual</i> and <i>official</i> reckoning.	
188	Date of Aḥmad Shāh's accession.	286
230	Do. do. imprisonment and deposition.	287
243	Do. 'Ālamgir II's accession.	287
276	Do. do. 's assassination.	287
286	Actual date of Shāh 'Ālam II's coronation; orders about the <i>official</i> date of his <i>Julūs</i> .	288

## Miftāḥu-t-Tawārīkh.

*Kāhn-pūr Lithograph, 1284 A.H.*

Text.		
213	Couplets inscribed on coins issued from the mints of Āgra and Aḥmadābād in Jahāngir's reign. (Brown, L.M.C. i. Couplets Nos. 15 and 22.)	
214	The Nūr Jahān coin-couplet. (Brown, No 52.)	318
236	Metrical inscriptions on the two hundred Muhr-piece of Shāh Jahān. (Brown No. 55.)	
264	Dates of Aurangzeb's two coronations and his style and titles.	
266	Aurangzeb's coin-couplet. (Brown, No. 58.)	
297	Bahādur Shāh Shāh 'Ālam's style and titles and date of coronation.	
298	Date of Bahādur Shāh's death.	
299	Jahāndār Shāh's style and titles. Date of his coronation. His coin couplet. (Rodgers, J.A.S.B., 1888, p. 28.)	
301	Farrukhsiyar's style and titles. Date of his coronation. His coin-couplet. (Brown, No. 68.)	
304	Raf'iu-d-Darajāt's coin-couplet. (Brown No. 69.)	
304-5	Raf'iu-d-Daula's style and titles and dates of accession and death.	
304	Muḥammad Shāh's style and titles and date of accession.	
305	Alleged coin-couplet of Muḥammad Shāh :	

زفضل حق شهنشاه محمد شاه دین پرور

دربین عالم زده سکه ز مهر و ماله روشن تر



## Text.

- 326 Date of Muḥammad Shāh's death. 219
- 327 Date of Ahmad Shāh's accession. His style and titles. He assumes the لقب *Bahādur* notwithstanding the advice of his ministers. 219
- 335 Dates of the deposition, blinding and death of Ahmad Shāh. 286
- 340-1 Date of 'Ālamgīr II's coronation. His style and titles and coin-couplet. (Rodgers, *loc. cit.* 31.) 287
- 341 Date of 'Ālamgīr II's assassination. 287
- 343 Date of Shāh 'Ālam II's accession. His style and titles and coin-couplet. 288, 327
- 361 Date on which Bidār Bakht was placed on the throne. His alleged coin-couplet. 289, 327
- 361 Date of the blinding of Shāh 'Ālam II. 288
- 375 Date of the death of Shāh 'Ālam II. 289
- 375 Akbar II's style and titles. Date of his accession. His coin-couplet. 289, 313, 328
- 394 Date of Akbar II's death. 289
- 394 Style and titles of Bahādur Shāh II. Date of his accession. His coin-couplet.<sup>1</sup> 289, 313, 328

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<sup>1</sup> It will be observed that there are in this Conspectus several passages which are not mentioned in the book itself, and to which no references are given. They have been included merely with a view to make the Index as exhaustive as possible. Most of them are literal reproductions or paraphrases of the statements of earlier writers and throw no new light on the subject, or are notices of secondary importance which are so vague, indefinite or incomplete that they make no real addition to our knowledge.





